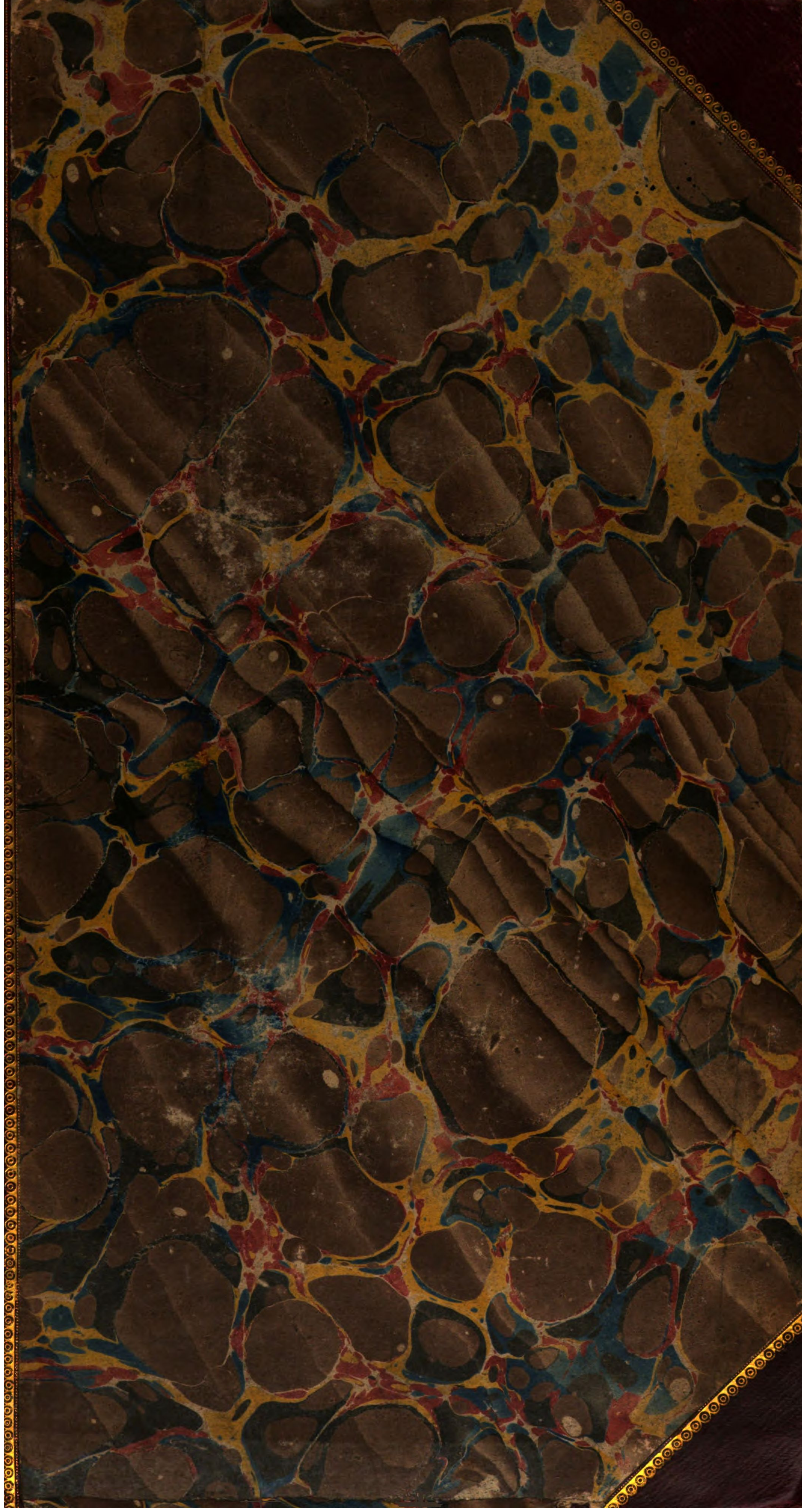
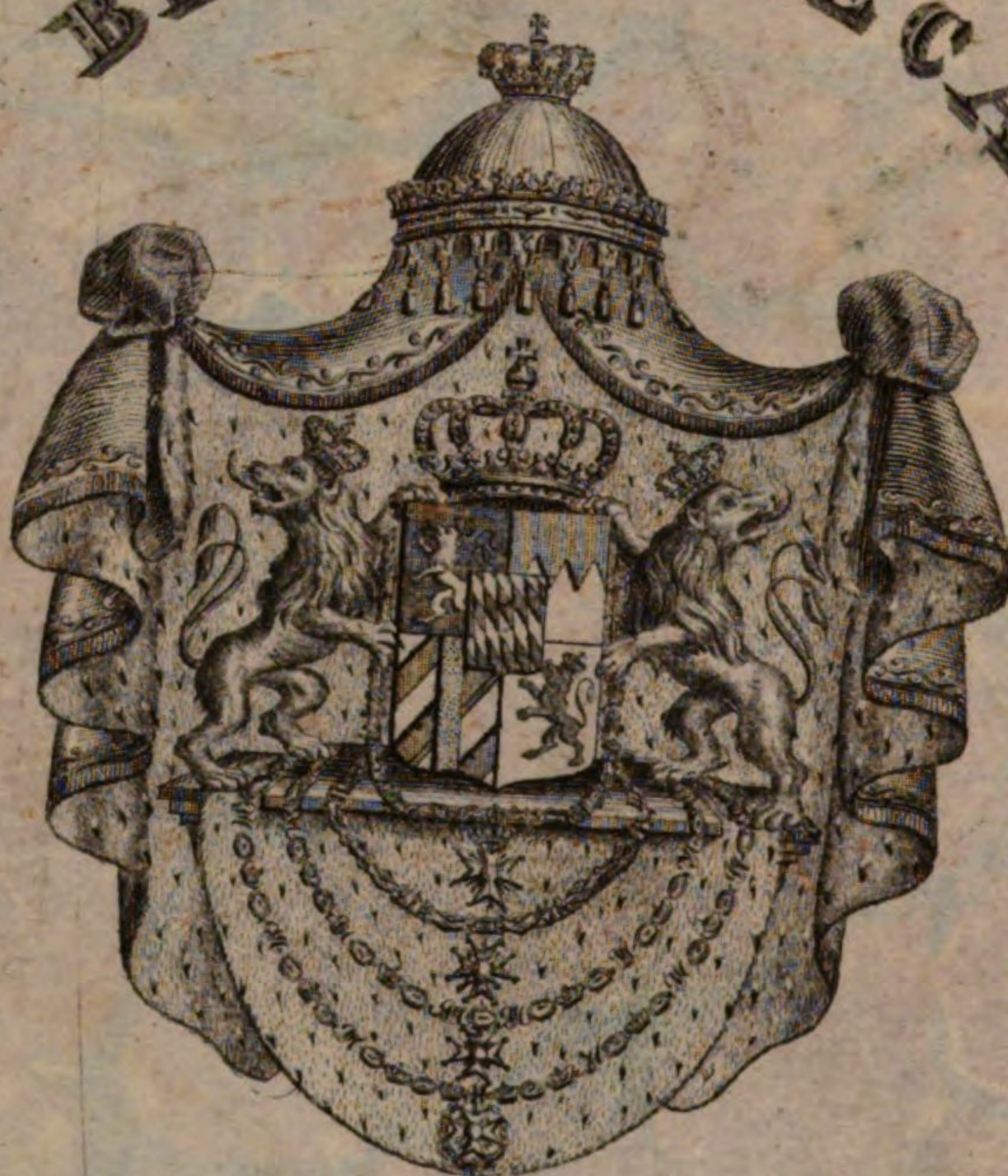
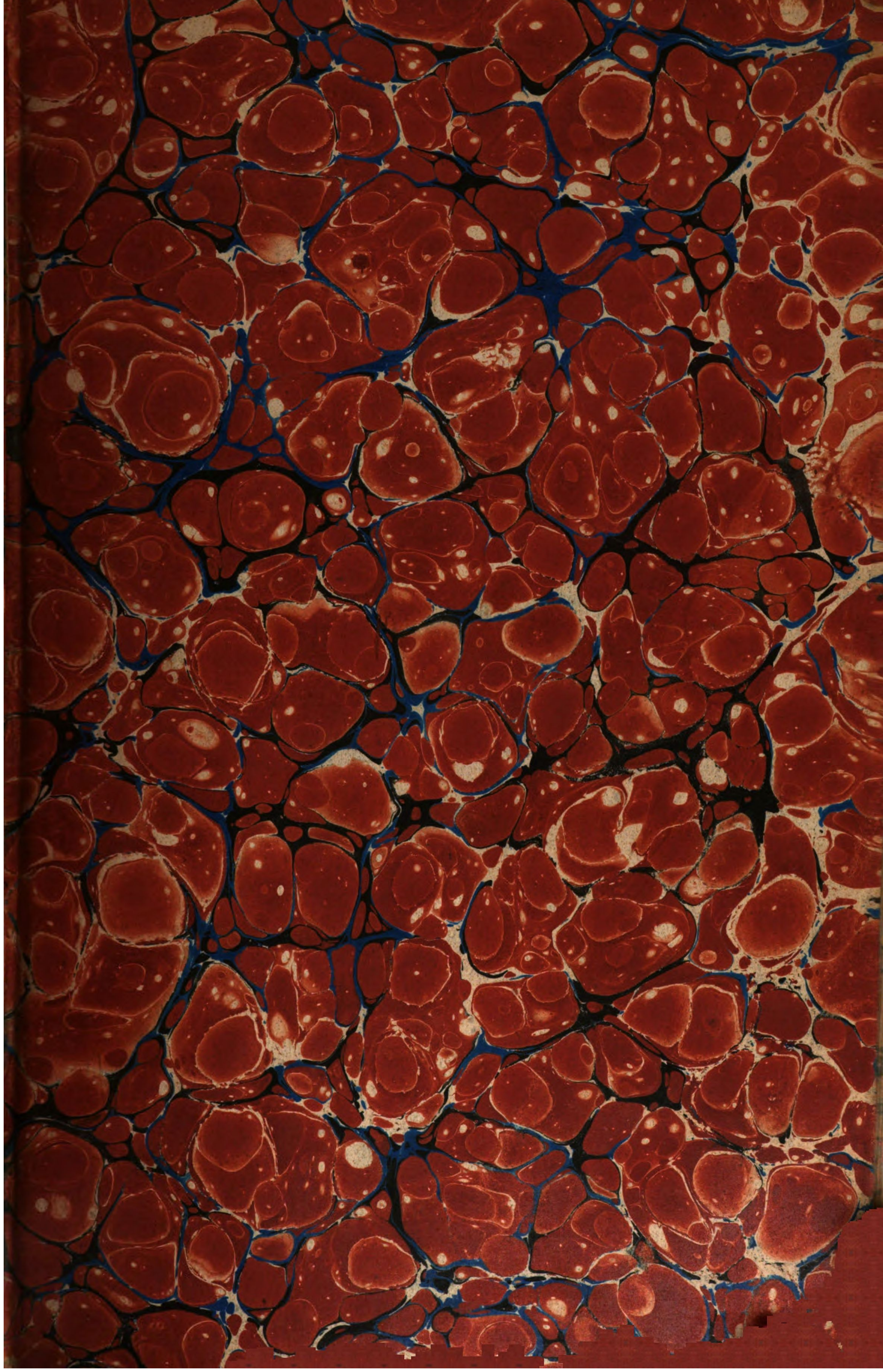




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OF THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS.

VOL. *10.*

Agriculture & Corn Trade.

1836.

SECTION

OF

REPORTS AND PAPERS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Vol. 10

1836

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REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE,

TO WHOM THE SEVERAL

PETITIONS

COMPLAINING OF THE DEPRESSED STATE

OF THE

Agriculture of The United Kingdom,

WERE REFERRED.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
18 June 1821.

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SELECT COMMITTEE

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Agriculture of The United Kingdom

WERE REFERRED.

Ordered by The House of Commons, to be Printed.

18 June 1831.

R E P O R T.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE to whom the several Petitions which have been presented to the House in this Session of Parliament, complaining of the depressed state of the Agriculture of the United Kingdom, were referred, to inquire into the Allegations thereof, and to report their Observations thereupon;—HAVE, pursuant to the Order of The House, considered the matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following REPORT:—

YOUR Committee do not think it necessary to preface the Observations which they have to make, upon the important matters referred to them by the House, by a recapitulation of the numerous laws which have been passed, at different periods, for regulating the trade in Corn. The most material of those laws have been brought under the consideration of the House by the reports of former Committees on this subject. It is, therefore, sufficient to remark, that by the salutary law of 1806, a free interchange in grain of every description, was established between Great Britain and Ireland; and that the trade in foreign corn is altogether governed by the provisions of the Acts of 54 and 55 Geo. III, by which were, for the first time, enacted;—first, a constantly free exportation from the United Kingdom, without reference to price, or without such exportation being either encouraged by any bounty, or restrained by any duty whatsoever;—secondly, an absolute prohibition against the introduction of every description of foreign grain, meal, or flour, into the consumption of the United Kingdom, when the average prices, ascertained according to the mode established by former Acts, are below certain specified rates;—thirdly, an unlimited freedom of importation, from all parts of the world, without any duty whatever, when the prices are above those specified rates.

46 Geo. 3, c. 97.

54 Geo. 3, c. 69.

55 Geo. 3, c. 26.

Such being the state of the Law which affects, so far as legislative interference can affect, the important interests brought under the consideration of the House by the numerous Petitions presented in this session, Your Committee proceeded, in the first instance, to inquire into the allegations of those petitions. It is with deep regret that they have to commence their Report by stating, that, in their judgment, the complaints of the petitioners are founded in fact, in so far as they represent that, at the present price of corn, the returns to the occupier of an arable farm, after allowing for the interest of his investment, are by no means adequate to the charges and outgoings; of which a considerable proportion can be paid only out of the capitals, and not from the profits of the tenantry.

This pressure upon the farmer, is stated by some of the witnesses to have materially affected the retail business of shopkeepers in country towns connected with the Agricultural districts. But notwithstanding this diminution of demand in particular parts of the country, it appears, by official returns, that the total consumption of the principal articles subject to duties of excise

and customs have increased in the last year, compared with the average of the three preceding years; and also, that the quantity of cotton wool used for home consumption, and of cloth manufactured in Yorkshire, was greater last year than in the year preceding, although the export of woollens in 1820 appears to have diminished. Your Committee have not the same authentic means of ascertaining the consumption of iron, but there appears every reason to believe that it has also increased.

The opinion of Your Committee, in respect to the present pressure upon the tenantry, is formed upon the best documentary evidence which the nature of the case admits of, confirmed by the testimony of many respectable witnesses, as well occupiers of land as surveyors and land agents: and it is further strengthened by a comparison of the difference between the existing price and the average price of the last ten years, the period within which most of the present engagements, affecting the tenant of the soil, may be supposed to have been contracted. If the present price could, under all the present circumstances, be remunerative, the average price of that period must have afforded an excessive profit; which does not appear probable, nor warranted by any facts. The only fair inference perhaps, to be drawn from such a comparison, and from the state of our Agriculture during the last war, is, that for a considerable part of that period, the returns of farming capital somewhat exceeded the ordinary rate of profit, and that at this time they are considerably below it.

However much this revulsion is to be lamented, both as it affects the public interest, and the interests and immediate prospects of a most meritorious class of the community, it is a revulsion of the same nature (whatever may be its degree) as many which have occurred in different periods of our history; and it is no more than an act of justice to the tenantry of Great Britain to state, that, so far as Your Committee have been able to ascertain, the rents, with some exceptions in particular districts, have hitherto been collected, without more arrear than has occurred on several former occasions. This punctuality, whilst it is highly honourable to the character of the tenantry, affords (Your Committee trust) a ground of hope, that the great body of the occupiers of the soil, either from the savings of more prosperous times, or from that credit which punctuality will generally command in this country, possess resources which will enable them to surmount the difficulties under which they now labour. The pressure of these difficulties has led, in many instances, to a diminution of rents, varying in degree according to the proportion in which such rents had been increased between the years 1793 and 1814, which diminution is stated by several of the witnesses to have been made as well upon subsisting leases, as in cases where farms have been recently relet.

Your Committee cannot allude to the state of rents in this country, without observing, that a large proportion of the increase of the rent which has taken place within the last twenty years, is owing to the capitals which have been permanently vested in improvements, partly by the owners and in part by the tenants of the soil; by the judicious application of which capitals, in many instances, great tracts of land, theretofore waste, or comparatively of little value, have been brought into productive cultivation.

A further proportion of the increase of rent is, unquestionably, to be ascribed to the diminished value of our currency, during a great part of the period when this rise took place. It may be difficult, upon an average of the whole kingdom, and still more difficult in specific cases, to determine

mine what part of the increase of rents may have arisen from this cause ; but it is certainly not inconsiderable, and was, during the war, sufficient probably to compensate to the landlord the effects of the derangement of the currency. The restoration of that currency will necessarily lead, as existing engagements lapse, to new arrangements between landlord and tenant ; in the adjustment of which the permanent effect of that restoration, however difficult exactly to ascertain, will have its practical effect.

But Your Committee cannot omit to state their opinion, that any attempt to determine that effect at this moment, would give an erroneous, and possibly an exaggerated measure of its prospective influence. Having been long *below*, the currency appears now to be forced *above*, its standard. In making this remark, it is by no means designed to offer an opinion upon the precautions which have been taken, and the preparations which have been made by the Bank, for the resumption of cash payments. But it must be obvious, that if the effect of those preparations has been to contract, in any considerable degree, the amount of coin previously circulating in Europe, by withdrawing it from that circulation into the coffers of the Bank, the value of money must have been raised generally on the continent ; and if, coincident with that operation, the separate currency of this country has also been contracted, not only in the degree necessary,—first, to restore it to its relative *par* value with the metallic currency of other countries, but further, to place it at a permanent *premium* above that metallic currency ; (itself enhanced in value in proportion to the amount withdrawn by the purchases of the Bank,) it would seem to follow, that the proportion of our circulation is now somewhat *below*, and the value of the currency somewhat *above*, what would be requisite to maintain that currency upon a level with the diminished circulation, and consequently, with the increased value of money in the other countries of the world. The present price of standard silver in bank paper, the very high course of the foreign exchanges, and the immense influx of bullion for the last nine months, without any decline in those exchanges, now higher with all countries than at any former period, all concur strongly to warrant this conclusion.

It would be foreign to the immediate object of this Report to pursue this subject further ; Your Committee, however, cannot but ascribe a proportion of the depression of prices, which (as they will hereafter have occasion to observe) now generally prevails in other countries, as well as in this, to the measures which the restoration of our currency had rendered necessary ; the general effect of which has been, in some degree, to derange the markets of every part of the civilized world ; an effect which has been aggravated in those markets, as well as in our own, by the endeavours of other countries to revert to a metallic currency simultaneously with ourselves.

Whatever therefore may be the ultimate operation of the restoration of the currency upon the nominal rental of the kingdom, Your Committee incline to believe that it will fall far short of some of the exaggerated predictions to which the present alarms have given rise ; and they see no reason to apprehend that the diminution can ultimately exceed that proportion of the increase which, during the war, grew out of the depreciated value of the currency.

Under circumstances favourable to the prosperity of the country, which they trust may fairly be anticipated from the continuance of peace, they are disposed to hope that this diminution may not be carried even to

that extent; although, as a general principle, Your Committee cannot doubt, that, in so far as the alteration of our currency has contributed to lower the price of commodities, the productions of Agriculture have been, and must hereafter, in common with all other articles, be affected by the improved value of our money.

But Your Committee are also satisfied, by the result of their enquiries, that, in the present year, the price of corn has been further depressed by the general abundance and good quality of the last harvest, in all articles of grain and pulse; more particularly in Ireland, in which part of the United Kingdom the preceding harvest of 1819, was also uncommonly productive. Several of the witnesses examined have stated their belief that the prices of grain have further been depressed, in the present year, by the very large importations of foreign corn which took place before the ports were closed in the month of February 1819; but looking to the very high prices, and to the constant and brisk demand which prevailed in our markets so long as the ports continued open in 1817 and 1818, it may be inferred that the greatest part of those importations was necessary, and was disposed of during those years, to supply the daily wants of our consumption, and that it is therefore only in a remote degree that the present prices can be influenced by the occurrences of that period.

It can scarcely be necessary for Your Committee to remark, that the growth of wheat has been greatly extended and improved of late years, in all parts of the United Kingdom, but principally in Ireland, since the year 1807.

Your Committee feel it an important part of their duty to recall to the recollection of the House, and the Country, that, in the years 1804 and 1814, a depression of prices,—principally caused by abundant harvests, and a great extension of tillage, excited by the extraordinary high prices of antecedent years,—appears to have produced a temporary pressure and uneasiness among the owners and occupiers of land, and a corresponding difficulty in the payment of rents and the letting of farms, in some degree similar to the apprehensions and embarrassments which now prevail; and, also, that in many earlier periods, similar complaints may be traced in the history of our Agriculture.

Among numerous instances of these complaints, which may be found in other publications, between the middle of the 17th century and the beginning of the late reign, two have been pointed out by one of the witnesses, in which the House will not fail to remark the great similarity between the arguments and alarms which were then current, with those which prevail in many quarters at this period.

That in these earlier and more remote stages of our Agriculture these alarms were only temporary, and that the fears of those who reasoned upon their continuance and increase, were ere long dissipated by the natural course of seasons and events, is now matter of history. And it is impossible to look back to the discussions of the years 1804 and 1814, and more especially to the evidence taken before the Committee appointed by the House on the latter occasion, without being forcibly struck with the conformity of the statements and opinions, then produced, respecting the ruinous operation and expected continuance of low prices, with those which will be found in the evidence now collected. Indeed these statements, in some instances, come from the mouths of the same witnesses.

Your

Your Committee will not lengthen their Report, by inserting any extracts from the Report of 1814, but they feel that, upon this point, they may confidently refer, on the one hand, to the general tenor of the examinations of the several surveyors and intelligent occupiers of land, whose evidence will be found annexed to that Report, and, on the other, to the Minutes which are now submitted to the House.

Your Committee trust that this reference to past experience will not be altogether useless and unavailing to allay the alarm, and to dispel some of the desponding predictions which, by unnecessarily increasing anxiety for the future, tend to aggravate the severe pressure of our present difficulties;—that the reflections which such a retrospect is calculated to excite, may lead the occupiers of the soil, as it has led Your Committee, to infer, that in Agriculture, as in all other pursuits, in which capital and industry can be embarked, there have been, and will be, periods of reaction: that such reaction is the more to be expected, in proportion to the long continued prosperity of the pursuit, and to the degree of previous excitement and exertion which that prosperity had called forth. They must add, as a further inference from the experience of former periods, to which the present crisis bears no distant resemblance, that there is a natural tendency in the distribution of capital and labour to remedy the disorders which may casually arise in society from such temporary derangements, and (without at all meaning to deny that it is the duty of the Legislature to do every thing in its power to shorten the duration, and to palliate the evils of the crisis) that it often happens that these disorders are prolonged, if not aggravated, by too much interference and regulation.

It is by no means with the expectation that the suffering of our own community can be alleviated by the contemplation of a corresponding pressure upon other nations, that Your Committee find themselves called upon to state, that many commodities of general and extensive demand, the staple productions of other countries, such as corn, cotton, rice and tobacco in the United States of America; sugar and rum in the West Indies; tallow, flax, hemp, timber, iron, wool, and corn, on the continent of Europe, appear to have fallen in price, in some instances more, and scarcely in any less, in proportion to the prices of those articles prior to 1816, than the fall in the price of grain in this country:—with regard to several of which articles, and the countries producing them, some of the causes which have principally affected the value of grain in this country cannot be considered as operating.

The proofs of this great revulsion of prices, in other parts of the world, may be found, as to most of those articles, in the Evidence collected by Your Committee, and the remainder in other authentic information now before the House. The facts indeed are, from their nature, matter of such notoriety to the commercial classes of the community, that they cannot admit of a doubt. So far as this state of things tends to involve other countries in embarrassment, it must be matter not of satisfaction, but of regret; and this natural feeling of every liberal mind will only be confirmed by reflecting upon the intimate connection which must exist between the advancement of other nations towards wealth and improvement, and the growing prosperity of our own. Entertaining this feeling, Your Committee trust, that their motive for noticing the present state of the markets in other parts of the world, will not be misconceived. The fact is one which naturally came within the scope of their inquiry, as tending to affect the markets of this country, and it appeared not unessential

to advert to it, for the further object of showing, that the causes which have produced this great change are not confined to any one country. It would seem that the influence of that general derangement which the convulsions of the last thirty years have produced in all the relations of commerce, in the application of capital, and in the demand for labour, is not yet spent and exhausted, and that neither the habits and dealings of individuals, members of the same community, nor the transactions and intercourse of different communities with one another, have hitherto altogether adjusted themselves to that more natural state of things, which we may now hope is likely to become again the more habitual and permanent condition of society.

It is impossible to have watched with any degree of attention, the state and condition of Agriculture, Manufactures, and Trade, under the influence of this depression in the prices of so many articles of general consumption, without being convinced that it has been attended with severe loss to the several classes by whose capitals those articles have been either raised, or held for sale and distribution, to supply the wants of society; but as far as depression of price has been produced by redundant production, which, at this moment, appears to be one of the causes operating to lower the price of corn both in this and other countries, it admits of no adequate remedy, except that which must arise from the progressive adjustment of the supply to the demand, either by the diminution of the one, or the increase of the other, or more probably, by the combined operation of both.

In the article of Corn, however, there is one consideration to be constantly borne in mind, most material to enable the House and the country to arrive at sound and safe conclusions on this important subject, namely,—that the price of corn fluctuates more than that of any other commodity of extensive consumption, in proportion to any excess or deficiency in the supply. The truth of this proposition had not escaped several writers on this subject, and has been confirmed by many of the witnesses who have been examined; although it may be doubted, whether, generally, they were aware of its extent and practical operation in the present state of this country and of our corn laws.

The cause which produces this greater susceptibility in the corn market cannot be better explained by Your Committee, than in the following extract from the answers of Mr. Tooke, one of the witnesses who was particularly examined to this point:—“Why should a different principle apply to corn
“than to any other general production? Because a fall in the price of
“any other commodity not of general necessity, brings the article within
“the reach of the consumption of a greater number of individuals,
“whereas in the case of corn, the average quantity is sufficient for the
“supply of every individual; all beyond that is an absolute depression
“of the market for a great length of time, and a succession of even
“two or three abundant seasons, must evidently produce an enormously
“inconvenient accumulation.”—“Is there not a greater consumption of
“corn when it is cheap than when it is dear, as to quantity? There may
“be, and possibly must be a greater consumption; but it is very evident
“that if the population was before adequately fed, the increased consumption, from abundance, can amount to little more than waste; and
“this would be in a very small proportion to the whole excess of a good
“harvest or two.”—“The whole population of this country and others
“do not subsist upon wheat, therefore when wheat becomes cheaper, those
“who

“ who were formerly fed upon other corn may take to feeding upon wheat?
 “ My remark was general as applying to corn. There is no doubt that if
 “ there is one description of corn applicable to human food which is
 “ abundant, and another that is deficient, then the principle does not
 “ apply; my principle applies to corn generally applicable to human food.
 “ It may be observed, that abundant seasons generally extend to the leading
 “ articles of consumption, and that it seldom happens, that in what are
 “ called commonly good years, there is a complete failure in any one great
 “ article.”

In the substance of this reasoning Your Committee entirely concur; and it appears to them that it cannot be called in question, without denying either that corn is an article of general necessity and universal consumption among the population of this country,—or that the demand is materially varied by the amount of the supply. This latter proposition, except within very narrow limits, altogether disproportioned to the fluctuations in production, is not warranted by experience. The general truth of the observation remains, therefore, unaltered by any small degree of waste on the one side, or of economy on the other; neither of which are sufficient to counteract the effect which opinion and speculation must have upon price, when it is felt how little demand is increased by redundancy, or checked by scantiness of supply.

In order to apply this leading principle, as affecting the trade in corn, to the present state of this country, and of our corn laws, Your Committee will assume, what they believe is not far from our actual situation, that the annual produce of corn, the growth of the United Kingdom, is, upon an average crop, about equal to our present annual consumption; and that with such an average crop, the present import prices, below which foreign corn is by law altogether excluded, are fully sufficient, more especially since the change in the value of our money, to secure to the British grower the complete monopoly of the home market. So long as he retains that monopoly, the fluctuation of prices in that market, will, it must be obvious, range between the *maximum* at which foreign corn is admitted, or (owing to the mode of ascertaining the averages) some temporary price not very much beyond it, and the *minimum* to which that price may be reduced, by a very abundant harvest, or a succession of such harvests, until British corn falls below the price of some foreign market, and finds a vent in exportation.

In mentioning a succession of abundant harvests as a contingency, which, by greatly reducing the price of corn, might ultimately force an exportation from this country, Your Committee feel it incumbent upon them to remark, that an opinion, founded apparently upon long observation, has prevailed with respect to the continuance of favourable or unfavourable seasons, for considerable but irregular periods of years, or cycles, as they have been called by Mr. Burke; an extract from whose work, intitled, “Thoughts and Details on Scarcity,” as also from the works of Dr. Adam Smith on this topic, will be found in the Minutes annexed to this Report.

If this doctrine, “That years of scarcity or plenty do not come alternately, or at short intervals, but in pretty large cycles and irregularly,” should be well founded, Your Committee need not enter into details or calculations to point out to the House, how hazardous and embarrassing must be the situation of the grower of corn in a country, where the lowest price which is considered to afford him a remuneration, shall habitually and considerably exceed the prices of the remainder of the world,

world; although up to that price, he should be secured in the complete monopoly of that country.

Upon this subject of a remunerative price, so far as relates to this country, Your Committee apprehend that much misconception prevails, and particularly in the use and application of these words in the minds of the Petitioners, and of several of the witnesses, who represent it as a fixed amount of 80 shillings for the quarter of wheat, and in proportion for other grain.

In the first place, it is obvious that what was deemed a remunerative price in 1815 under one state of things, may be more or less than a remunerative price in 1821 under a very different state of things. The sum of 80 *S.* may represent a different value now from what it did then, and assuming rent to remain the same, the expense of seed, labour, and all other outgoings, may have been materially diminished; but, making ample allowance for these grounds of variation, it would by no means be an impossible case, that, in the ordinary acceptation of these words "remunerative price," 80 *S.* at this time, may not be more, or even so much "remunerative," as that sum was held to be in 1815. The meaning usually attached to these words, is, the price at which corn can be raised, paying all present charges, and leaving to the grower a fair profit upon his capital. Now, if the country should require for its annual consumption one-fifth, for example, more of corn than was sufficient in 1815, this increased demand would require an extended tillage. Lands which, in 1815, would not have paid for cultivation, would be applied to the raising of corn, and it would be very possible that upon those lands paying no rent, and notwithstanding the increased value of money and diminished expense of production, corn could not be raised for 80 *S.* a quarter. In this supposition, therefore, if it should be the policy of the State to preserve the monopoly of the home market to the home grower, it would be necessary to raise the scale of import price above 80 *S.* a quarter; but then inasmuch as the cost of raising corn on all lands, upon which it was before produced with profit, would not be augmented, that profit would be proportionally increased for the benefit, first of the tenant, during the remainder of his engagement, and afterwards of the landlord, from the period of its termination; and, after a new engagement, 80 *S.* would no more be a remunerative price upon the richest land, paying the highest rent, than it would upon the poorest, paying no rent at all.

If therefore the population of the country and its power of consumption should continue to increase, it would be necessary, in order to preserve in efficacy the principle and system of our Corn Law, from time to time to advance the import prices, even though all the charges of producing corn should remain the same.

The change in the value of our money is, virtually, such an advance; and the result of every such advance, supposing prices not to undergo a corresponding rise in other countries, must be to expose this country to greater and more grievous fluctuations in price, and the business of a farmer to greater uncertainty and hazard, according to the alternations of good or bad seasons.

This is the part of the present system of our Corn Laws, and of the principle involved in that system, which appears most to require earnest and serious consideration, with a view to the future interests and welfare of the country. The ruinously low prices of Agricultural produce at this moment, cannot be ascribed to any deficiency in the protecting power of the

the law. Protection cannot be carried further than monopoly. This monopoly the British grower has enjoyed for the produce of the two last harvests; the ports (with the exception of the ill timed and unnecessary importation of oats during six weeks of the last summer) having been uninterruptedly shut against all foreign import for nearly thirty months.

Now the produce of the harvest of 1819 in the United Kingdom, does not appear to have exceeded an average crop; but that of 1820 was more abundant.

On the continent of Europe, the harvests both of 1818 and 1819 are stated to have been very abundant. Against the produce of those harvests our ports have been closed. The result is, an accumulation on the continent held at prices so low, that, whatever may be the depression which abundance may produce in this country, we can look to no relief in exportation, till that accumulation shall be disposed of by a scarcity on the continent, or a failing crop here; either of which will restore the markets to their natural level.

Upon a series of years, a general scarcity is, perhaps, less to be dreaded on the continent, taking its whole surface together, than in this country; because the United Kingdom, from its comparatively limited territory, is liable to greater fluctuations in the produce and quality of its harvests. The risk of these fluctuations must increase in proportion as the produce of Ireland (the part of the United Kingdom of which the climate is the most fickle) may become a more extended part of our general supply. It must, therefore, be manifest, that the evil of a failing crop would be aggravated as our dependence upon Ireland increased. It may, also, be a question, whether the produce of the poorer soils in England is not more likely to be affected by ungenial seasons; and it is certain, that the great magnitude of our consumption, as compared with former periods, must render the pressure of any deficiency created by those circumstances more severe, and the means of providing against it more difficult and more costly. A harvest which should be one-third below an average in wheat, would bring upon this country a very different degree of suffering, and would require a very different degree of exertion and sacrifice to supply the deficiency, from what would have been required under a similar failure fifty years ago.

If, on the one hand, the risk of a defective harvest is increased by these circumstances, so on the other, will the occasional pressure of very inadequate prices be more severely felt by the grower, whenever an abundant harvest, or, possibly, more than one in succession, shall lead to a glut of produce, without the relief of a vent from exportation.

Taking, therefore, as the basis of all wise regulations on the subject of the Corn Laws, the undeniable positions,—that the landlord, the tenant, and the consumer, have one great and common interest in maintaining a permanent and adequate supply of corn, at prices as steady as possible,—and that steadiness of price must depend, on guarding, as much as legislative interference can guard, against the effects of fluctuation of seasons;—Your Committee have examined the practical operation of the present system of our foreign trade in corn, with a reference to these two points.

To prohibit the foreign supply altogether, so long as from the casualty of seasons, we are subject to years of deficient or damaged produce, has at all times been felt to be impossible. But, since the year 1815, we have

had recourse to an absolute prohibition up to a certain price, and an unlimited competition beyond that price.

This system is certainly liable to sudden alterations, of which the effect may be at one time to reduce prices already low, lower than they would probably have been under a state of free trade, and at another, unnecessarily to enhance prices already high;—to aggravate the evils of scarcity, and to render more severe the depression of prices from abundance. On the one hand, it deceives the grower with the false hope of a monopoly, and, by its occasional interruption, may lead to consequences which deprive him of the benefits of that monopoly, when most wanted;—on the other hand, it holds out to the country the prospect of an occasional free trade, but so regulated and desultory, as to baffle the calculations and unsettle the transactions, both of the grower and the dealer at home;—to deprive the consumer of most of the benefits of such a trade, and to involve the merchant in more than the ordinary risks of mercantile speculation. It exposes the markets of the country, either to be occasionally overwhelmed with an inundation of foreign corn, altogether disproportionate to its wants; or, in the event of any considerable deficiency in our own harvest, it creates a sudden competition on the continent, by the effect of which, the prices there are rapidly and unnecessarily raised against ourselves. But the inconvenient operation of the present Corn Law, which appears to be less the consequence of the quantity of foreign grain brought into this country, upon an average of years, than of the manner in which that grain is introduced, is not confined to great fluctuations in price, and consequent embarrassment, both to the grower and the consumer; for the occasional prohibition of import, has also a direct tendency to contract the extent of our commercial dealings with other states, and to excite in the rulers of those states, a spirit of permanent exclusion against the productions or manufactures of this country and its colonies. In this conflict of retaliatory exclusion, injurious to both, the two parties, however, are not upon an equal footing;—on our part, prohibition must yield to the wants of the people; on the other side, there is no such over-ruling necessity. And inasmuch as reciprocity of demand is the foundation of all means of payment, a large and sudden influx of corn might, under these circumstances, create a temporary derangement of the course of exchange, the effects of which (after the resumption of cash payments) might lead to a drain of specie from the Bank, the consequent contraction of its circulation, a panic among the country banks,—all aggravating the distress of a public dearth, as has been experienced at former periods of scarcity.

That the present system of our Corn Law has a tendency, according to circumstances, at one time to reduce prices lower than they would probably have been under a state of free trade; and at another time, to enhance those prices, when already perhaps too high, will not appear paradoxical to the House, if it be considered that the practical operation of this system, in its sudden and desultory transitions, may be, not only slightly at variance with, but in direct opposition to, the principle on which it is founded;—that principle being, to shut out foreign corn from home consumption, in seasons of sufficient or abundant crops, and to give every facility to its introduction, in years of scarcity. For example, let it be supposed that on the 15th of August next, the average price of wheat, ascertained in the usual mode, should be 79 *S.* 11 *d.* per quarter, whatever may be the possible scantiness of the forth-coming harvest, (a fact not then capable of being ascertained,) the ports will remain shut till the 15th of November; but if that average should be 80 *S.* 1 *d.* whatever may be

be the abundance of the forth-coming harvest, the ports and the warehouses of foreign corn will be opened at least for six weeks; and, in reference to the principal exporting countries, for three months.—Pursuing the supposition a little further,—if the first case should occur when there was no accumulation of foreign corn in the warehouses of this country, and very little at the shipping ports of the continent (a state of things by no means rare) the prices at home, after a failing harvest, would rise very rapidly, and become very high, before any material supply could be drawn from the north of Europe; as both the passage down the rivers, and the navigation of the Baltic would be interrupted during the winter. In the meantime, the prices on the continent would be regulated by those of this country, rising as our prices rose. In the spring, there would be a great demand for shipping to bring over the supplies purchased during the winter, by which the charge of bringing the corn to our market would be still further increased; and thus, in various ways, prices would unnecessarily be enhanced in this country; first, during the most distressing period of the year, from the want of a timely and regular supply from abroad; secondly, from the eager and general competition to procure that supply upon the sudden opening of our ports, a competition which will immediately raise the price on the continent against ourselves, until, together with the charges of conveyance, and the probable loss upon the fall of exchange, it becomes upon a level with the scarcity price of this country; and thirdly, by the direct tax which may be laid upon the export from countries to which we resort for our supplies. This tax, in the Prussian dominions, was about 10*S.* a quarter during the extreme scarcity which prevailed in this country, in the years 1800 and 1801; and it was expressly declared, that the continuance or removal of this tax would depend altogether upon the continuance or cessation of the wants of this kingdom.

But if the second supposed case (that of our ports being opened at a fraction above 80*S.*) should arise, when there was a great stock of foreign corn in the warehouses of this country, and at the shipping ports of the continent (which is the present state of things) in proportion to the low and ruinous price to which that corn, from long accumulation, and want of vent, would be reduced, would be the temptation, and consequent eager competition, and simultaneous effort, to pour it upon this country; where, in the case supposed of an abundant harvest, no part of it would be wanted, and its rapid influx would not fail to lower the prices to a pitch which they never would have reached, had the trade not been liable to such sudden alternations.

The case here assumed, is precisely what occurred in the month of August last, so far as relates to oats. Your Committee think they cannot better illustrate the possible operation of the present law, than by inserting a short extract of a dispatch, which will be found in the Appendix, from His Majesty's consul at Hamburgh, to the Marquis of Londonderry, on this occurrence:—"Agricultural produce has progressively declined
 " during two years, the demand for export unusually small, and there has
 " been no stimulus to animate the agriculturist. The only great change
 " which took place during that period was in the article of oats. On the
 " opening of the English ports in August last for this grain, an immediate
 " rise of from 30 to 50 per cent occurred; the shortness of the time al-
 " lowed for importation, occasioned shipments to a *much greater extent*
 " than would have been the case had the ports remained open. There was
 " no anticipation here of the sudden fall of this grain in England, and
 " from the rapidity with which shipments were made to arrive in time,
 " many persons were induced to send their grain to England, who would
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“ not have done so, had they had time to ascertain the quantity shipped
 “ from various quarters, and the ruinous effects to be expected from so
 “ vast and so sudden an importation. Had the English ports been open
 “ for a year, it is probable that the importation would not have been
 “ much greater, but it would have been more gradual, and consequently
 “ not so ruinous; a moderate advance on the continent, and a moderate
 “ reduction in England, would have taken place. The consumer in England
 “ has alone profited, the importers from the continent having on the whole
 “ lost much money by the speculation. The net price produced from
 “ England, has been found insufficient to pay the moderate price of the
 “ continental farmer.”

“ The result, therefore, of this transaction, has been a ruinous depression
 “ in the markets here, and a very heavy loss to all engaged in the im-
 “ portation.”

Your Committee cannot but remark that this importation, large as it was, amounted to no more than 726,873 quarters; and that our annual consumption of oats has been estimated, for Great Britain only, at near 30 millions of quarters; thus forcibly illustrating the effect of a comparatively trifling excess in a market of grain already abundantly supplied.

If such be the consequences of the present system, they sufficiently point out the nature of those inconveniences to which it may expose the grower, the dealer at home, and the foreign importer in his speculations abroad. When Your Committee find, for instance, in the seventeen months which passed between January 1816 and June 1817, the price of wheat varying from 53*S.* 1*d.* to 112*S.* 7*d.*; and again, in the three months which ensued from June to September 1817, from 112*S.* 7*d.* to 74*S.* they cannot but ask, whether fluctuations so rapid and extensive have existed in any other commodity of universal supply and demand, or in any other country? and whether these fluctuations may not have been aggravated by some of the effects of the present law?

With respect to the effects which may be produced in this country, all the internal and commercial transactions of which so mainly depend on circulating credit, by a sudden revulsion in the foreign exchanges, the experience of the last thirty years is a sufficient warning. Your Committee therefore feel a confident assurance, that when the attention of the House is called to the subject, it will examine with a jealous care for the public interest, how far the present system of the corn trade has a tendency to bring upon the country the renewal of this calamity.

They are the more anxious to press upon the attentive consideration of the House, the possible tendency of this system of alternation between absolute prohibition and unlimited competition, from feeling that it is not founded upon a principle which has the sanction of long usage in its favour. Both the alternatives of the present system, in their present full extent, may be said to have been introduced, for the first time, by the Act of 1815. Until that period positive prohibition was unknown to our corn laws, and importation was never permitted without the payment of some duty. The amount of that duty, it is true, when grain was above certain prices, which were reckoned the incipient indications of an inadequate supply from our own growth, was very little more than nominal; at prices somewhat lower, it was very moderate; and it was only when the prices had fallen, and remained for some time below that second stage in the scale, that any duty sufficiently high to check the importation attached, but subject to that duty the trade still continued to be free. The scale, for instance, by which importation was regulated in the article of wheat, up to the year 1815, was as follows:—

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When the average price was at or above 66*S.* duty on importation 6*d.* a quarter; between 66*S.* and 63*S.* duty on importation 2*S.* 6*d.*; below 63*S.* duty 24*S.* 3*d.* The latter duty, Your Committee think it fit to observe, operated generally as a prohibition during the short periods that it was payable.

This was the principle of our Corn Law, as far as relates to importation, ever since the year 1773, although the scale at which the different rates of duty commenced had more than once been raised. Its practical operation appears to have been as follows:—That from the year 1773 to the year 1814,—during which period the total imports of corn have greatly exceeded the total exports, the former amounting to 30,430,189 quarters, and the latter to 5,801,440 quarters,—the ports have been constantly open and the trade free, upon the payment of a duty merely nominal, with the exception of a few short intervals when the high duty was demandable:—that from the year 1773 to the year 1792, (with the exception of the years of the American war, in which freights and insurance might be somewhat increased) the only advantage of protection which the British grower had over the foreigner, was in the amount of this nominal duty, together with the ordinary expense of peace freights, and other charges of conveyance in bringing the foreign grain to market;—and that from the year 1792 to 1814, that protection continued the same, so far as related to the duty, but was, in fact, considerably enhanced by the high rates of charge incident to the late war, and particularly by the peculiar circumstances of the continent, during the last ten years of that war. It is also to be remarked, that, up to the year 1806, the trade in corn with Ireland was under restriction; and that, since the operation of the wise law passed in that year, the importation of grain from that part of the United Kingdom, free from any charge or duty, has amounted, up to the 5th of January last, to 12,304,730 quarters, whereas the whole import from Ireland in thirty-two years, between 1773 and 1806, was only 7,534,202 quarters.

The necessary consequence of the trade in corn having been virtually open with the continent, and the importation allowed at duties merely nominal, during this period of forty years, has been, that the general price, at the shipping ports on the continent, has not, upon an average, been materially lower than the price in England, except to the amount of the charges to be incurred in bringing the foreign corn to the markets of this country. The price, at a distance from those shipping ports, and in the districts which have not the benefit of good roads or internal navigation, it is true, has been much lower, but this difference was absorbed in the expense and risk of transporting it from those districts. The quantity that can be supplied, without incurring that expense, is limited; and in proportion as the prices in England have been high, has the interior circle on the continent from which the supplies have been drawn, been extended.

The severe scarcities which we have experienced, have furnished us, therefore, with something like a measure of the degree in which they could be relieved from the surplus produce of the continent, within the prices which those scarcities respectively occasioned: whilst the mode in which every rise in the price at home adds to the power and inducement of increasing the foreign importation, shows that any increase of the rates, at which the import commences under the present system, would only tend, whenever the ports should open, to aggravate the fluctuation, and the other inconveniences which appear to Your Committee to appertain to the principle of alternate monopoly and free importation.

Your Committee are the more anxious to impress upon the attention of the House the real state of our trade in foreign corn, between the years
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1773 and 1814, as it appears to them, taken in connection with the progress of general prosperity in the country, and more especially with the great improvements in agriculture, and its highly flourishing condition during that period, to suggest to Parliament, as a matter highly deserving of their future consideration, whether a trade in corn, constantly open to all nations of the world, and subject only to such a fixed duty as might compensate to the grower the loss of that encouragement which he received during the late war from the obstacles thrown in the way of free importation, and thereby protect the capitals now vested in agriculture from an unequal competition in the home market,—is not, as a permanent system, preferable to that state of law by which the corn trade is now regulated. It would be indispensable, for the just execution of this principle, that such duty should be calculated fairly to countervail the difference of expense, including the ordinary rate of profit, at which corn, in the present state of this country, can be grown and brought to market within the United Kingdom, compared with the expense, including also the ordinary rate of profit, of producing it in any of those countries from whence our principal supplies of foreign corn have usually been drawn, joined to the ordinary charges of conveying it from thence to our markets.

In suggesting this change of system, for further consideration, as a possible improvement of the Corn Laws at some future time, the Committee are fully aware of the unfitness of the present moment for attempting such a change, when, owing to the general abundance of the late harvests in Europe, and to the markets of this country having been shut against foreign corn for near thirty months, a great accumulation has taken place in the shipping ports on the continent, and in the warehouses of foreign corn in this country; and when that accumulation, from want of any vent, is held at very low prices, and might tend still further to depress the already overstocked markets of this country, if allowed to be introduced at this period, except at such a high rate of duty as it would be inexpedient to attempt, and moreover very difficult to determine. The present market price of the corn thus accumulated, is not the measure of the cost at which it has been produced, or of the rate at which it can be afforded by the foreign grower, but the result of a general glut of the article, of a long want of demand, and of extreme distress and heavy loss on the part of those by whom it has been raised, and of those by whom it is now held, either in the warehouses of the continent or of this country.

Assuming, therefore, that under the present circumstances of the case, Parliament would not now deem it expedient to abandon entirely the principle of the existing law, Your Committee have anxiously directed their attention to the possibility of, in some degree, modifying its operation, so as to remedy that inconvenience to which they have more particularly referred in the earlier part of their Report;—which consists in the sudden and irregular manner in which in many cases foreign corn may be introduced upon the opening of the ports, under circumstances inconsistent with the spirit and intention of the law. They conceive that this object might be attained by the imposition of a fixed duty upon corn, whenever, upon the opening of the ports, it should become admissible for home consumption. It would, however, be necessary, in case this suggestion should be carried into effect, that the present import price should be fixed at a lower rate, because it is obvious that the duty would otherwise not only check the sudden and overwhelming amount of import, but also enhance the price beyond what it might reach under the present law; an effect which Your Committee are so far from desirous of producing, that

that they think it would probably be expedient additionally to guard against it, by providing, that, after corn should have reached some given high price, the duty should cease altogether.

If such a change in the operation of the corn laws should have the effect of checking extravagant speculation and excessive import, it would be equally beneficial to the grower and the consumer. It would apply some remedy to the evil of which almost all the Petitions referred to Your Committee so loudly complain, and it has no tendency, either hastily or prematurely, to affect the principle upon which is rested that protection which the law now gives to the Agricultural interest of the country.

It is not the province of Your Committee to specify any precise permanent duty for the protection of the British grower; nor should they perhaps, be adequately prepared so to do without further enquiry; nor until the obstacle to that inquiry, created by the present accumulation and glut, shall be removed. At the same time, they incline to the opinion, that leaving to every part of the United Kingdom the inestimable public benefit of the most full and free competition in the home market, without regard to the difference of fertility in the soil or of expense in its cultivation, either from a difference in the price of labour, or in the amount of local and public burthens directly affecting the land; it may, perhaps, be difficult, if not impossible, putting rent out of the question, for the occupiers of some of the poorest and most expensive soils now under tillage in Great Britain, to bring their produce to market in competition with the more fertile lands of this country, and especially of Ireland. Your Committee would be anxious to suggest, for the consideration of Parliament, as the principle and basis of the trade in foreign corn, such a protecting duty upon the produce of other countries, as would not aggravate to the occupiers of such soils the present difficulty of that competition. The general question, how far the forced cultivation of some of those inferior lands may have been expedient or advantageous for the public interest, is one upon which it is unnecessary to offer a positive opinion. They can, however, have no difficulty in stating that, within the limits of the existing competition at home, the exertions of industry and the investment of capital in Agriculture, ought to be protected against any revulsion, but that the protection ought not to go further;—and that, if protected to that extent, the growth of our population, the accumulation of our internal wealth, affording increased employment to that population, and consequently increased means of purchasing all those articles of consumption and enjoyment, which must be derived from the soil of this country, will continue to give, as they have given during the last 60 years, the most effectual stimulus and encouragement to the progressive improvement of our Agriculture, and to the consequent value of the landed property of the kingdom;—that, under such a system, there can be no apprehension that either will permanently retrograde, (except in so far as rents may be nominally affected by the resumption of cash payments) or even be for any time stationary,—so long as our institutions continue to afford, to capital and industry, that superior degree of security and protection which they have hitherto found in this country,—so long as public credit and good faith keep pace with that security and protection, and as we avoid any course which, in a time of peace, and possibly of improving confidence in the stability of the institutions of other countries, might drive capital to seek a more profitable employment in foreign states. It is under the impression that the present Corn Law, together with the amount of our taxation, by diminishing the profits of capital, have such

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a tendency, that Your Committee suggest the modifications which have been pointed out, as fit for further enquiry and investigation; and that they feel it their duty, also, to accompany that suggestion with a most earnest recommendation, that every opportunity should be watched, and every practical measure adopted, for reducing the amount of the Public Expenditure; as the only means of approximating to a state of Finance, which, without impairing the credit of the country, may lead to a diminution of the existing burthens of the People.

Your Committee have abstained from urging, in favour of an open intercourse in foreign corn, those general principles of freedom of trade, which are now universally acknowledged to be sound and true, in reference to the commerce of nations. If it be for the wisdom of the House, on the one hand, to endeavour to revert to those principles as far as practicable, in this, and in all other cases; on the other, it is also for its prudence and its justice to take care, in that application, to spare vested interests, to deal tenderly with those obstacles to improvement which the long existence of a vicious and artificial system too often creates, and sometimes even to modify and limit that principle, in reference to considerations of general policy connected with the institutions, or the safety, of the State. Looking to the possible contingencies of war, Your Committee are not insensible to the importance of securing the country from a state of dependence upon other, and possibly hostile, countries, for the subsistence of its population;—looking to the Institutions of the country, in their several bearings and influence in the practice of our constitution, they are still more anxious to preserve to the landed interest, the weight, station and ascendancy, which it has enjoyed so long, and used so beneficially. Their first wish, therefore, is, that, whatever general suggestions they may offer, should be scrupulously examined with a due regard to these two considerations.

As they have adverted to the state of the country between 1773 and 1814, as connected with the important subject of their enquiry, it may perhaps assist others, in their researches and reflexions, to state, that Your Committee selected that period, because the year 1773 was, in fact, the commencement of a great change in the practical operation, if not in the avowed policy of our Corn Laws. From that date, the aggregate balance of our imports of grain, taken upon a series of years, began to exceed the balance of our exports. But upon looking back from that year to the period of the revolution in 1688, (a space of 85 years) our exports taken for any number of years, on the contrary, exceeded our imports. From the year 1697, (the earliest date from which accurate returns have been made) to the year 1773, the total excess of exports was, 30,968,366 quarters; upon which exports bounties amounting to £.6,237,176, were paid out of the public Revenue. A course, somewhat similar in principle, of exciting an export by a bounty, but more desultory in its application, and more frequently interrupted by arbitrary interference, prevailed under the Princes of the house of STUART; and if we look to a still earlier period, we find that the same policy of forcing the growth of corn was attempted, by harsher expedients, during the reigns of the TUDORS. Between the reign of Henry the 7th and the 39th of Elizabeth, numerous Acts* of Parliament were passed, for the express purpose of encouraging tillage. Those laws

* 4 Hen. 7, c. 19.

7 Hen. 8, c. 1.

25 D^o - - c. 13.

27 D^o - - c. 32.

5 & 6 Edw. 6, c. 5.

5 Eliz. c. 2.

39 D^o c. 2.

laws proceeded upon the principle of compulsion, limiting for instance, the number of sheep and live stock, prohibiting the conversion of arable into pasture, and enjoining the breaking up of pastures, which had at any previous period been arable, either under a pecuniary penalty, or a forfeiture of half the land, "until the offence be reformed."

These compulsory laws, (all of which it may be observed preceded the introduction of that Act which laid the foundation of the system of our Poor Laws,) appear to have been principally suggested by a wish to find employment for the population, and to relieve their misery, by enforcing an extension of cultivation beyond the wants of the country. But, neither under those laws, nor under the subsequent attempt to augment the produce of our Agriculture, by the creation of a fictitious foreign demand, excited by a large bounty on exportation, did the Agriculture of this country make any advance, at all to be compared to that unparalleled prosperity, which began with the decline of that system, about the beginning of the last reign, and which, with some few temporary interruptions, has marked its progress up to the present time. In comparing the two periods, each of nearly equal duration, between the peace of Utrecht and the commencement of the seven years war,—and between the years 1773 and 1814,—and recollecting that the first period was one of almost uninterrupted peace; and that nearly thirty years of the latter, have passed away in the exertions of two most expensive wars;—that, during the former period, the market interest of money was generally much below, and during the latter, frequently as much above the rate fixed by law;—that during the former, the aim of the legislature was, by artificial means, to divert the application of capital from other employments to that of Agriculture, as well by positive bounties which forced an export of grain to other countries, as by duties which generally altogether precluded its import either from the continent or from Ireland;—that during the latter, Agriculture has, in point of fact, been without either of those stimulants;—Your Committee cannot look at these contrasted circumstances, coincident during the first period, with a comparative stagnation of our Agriculture; and, during the second, with its most rapid growth and improvement, without acknowledging that there was nothing in the system pursued up to 1773, which necessarily promoted this most essential branch of public industry and national wealth; and also, that there is nothing incompatible with the success of both these objects, in the system which has practically prevailed since that date. If the quantity of wheat, the growth of Great Britain, was truly estimated, as it was estimated in 1773, at four millions of quarters, and if it cannot now be stated so low as at double that amount, it is evident that the change of system has been attended with no defalcation of produce. If, since that year, the number of cattle and sheep has been vastly augmented, their breeds improved, and, by those improvements, their size and aptness to fatten, and in sheep their fleeces greatly increased; if, by this augmentation of live stock, a greater quantity of manure has been produced; if all the most important but expensive meliorations of modern husbandry have been introduced; if scientific drainages have been undertaken, and extensive wastes inclosed, to augment the produce of the land,—it cannot be said that there has been a want of encouragement to invest large and adequate capitals in this branch of national industry.

If, from Agriculture, Your Committee look to the permanent Improvements which have been made in the country itself within the same period, the Bridges which have been built, the Roads which have been formed, the Rivers which have been rendered navigable, the Canals which have been completed, the Harbours which have been made and improved,

the Docks which have been created,—not by the public revenue, but by the capitals and enterprize of individuals; if they look, at the same time, to the unexampled growth of manufactures and commerce—in the contemplation of this augmentation of internal wealth, which defies all illustration from comparison with any former portion of our history, or of the history of any other state;—Your Committee may entertain a doubt, (a doubt however, which they wish to state with that diffidence which a subject so extensive naturally imposes upon their judgment,)—whether the only solid foundation of the flourishing state of Agriculture, is not laid in abstaining, as much as possible, from interference, either by protection or prohibition, with the application of capital, in any branch of industry?—whether all fears for the decline of Agriculture, either from temporary vicissitudes to which all speculations are liable, or from the extension of other pursuits of general industry, are not, in a great degree, imaginary?—whether commerce can expand, manufactures thrive, and great public works be undertaken, without furnishing to the skill and labour which the capitals thus employed put in motion, increased means of paying for the productions of the land?—whether the principal part of those productions which contribute to the gratification of the wants and desires of the different classes of the community, must not necessarily be drawn from our own soil, the demand increasing with the population, as the population must increase with the riches of the country?—whether a great part of the same capital which is employed in supporting the industry connected with manufactures, commerce, and public works, does not, passing by a very rapid course into the hands of the occupier of the soil, serve also as a capital for the encouragement of Agriculture?—whether, in our own country in former times, and in other naturally fertile countries up to the present time, Agriculture has not languished from the want of such a stimulus?—and whether, in those countries, the proprietors of the land are not themselves poor, and the people wretched, in proportion, as from want of capital, their labour is more exclusively confined to raising from their own soil, the means of their own scanty subsistence?

If these questions should be answered in the affirmative, it follows, that the present solidity and future improvement of our national wealth depend on the continuance of that union by which our Agricultural prosperity is so closely connected with the preservation of our manufacturing and commercial greatness.

It will be for the House to appreciate this view of the subject, to watch the progress of events affecting any of the great branches of our industry, and, in its wisdom, to determine, according to circumstances, how far, and by what arrangements, it can best reconcile those considerations of state policy which make it desirable that this country should not become too habitually or extensively dependent, for the subsistence of its people on foreign supply, with the necessity of guarding, as much as possible, against creating, by artificial means, too great a difference between the cost of that subsistence here and in other countries;—not only in regard to the people themselves, but also from the risk which must be in proportion to that difference, of driving much of the capital, by which their industry and labour are supported, to seek employment in other countries. For there cannot be a doubt that this difference operates, in the same manner as taxation, to diminish the profits of capital in this country, and there can be as little doubt, that though capital may migrate, the unoccupied population will remain;—and remain to be maintained by the landed interest, upon whose resources, diminished in proportion to diminished demand, this additional burthen would principally fall.

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In some of the Petitions referred to Your Committee, the depression and distress of all those concerned in Agriculture, are mainly ascribed to the extent of our public burthens coupled with their diminished means of bearing them.

The general influence of taxation upon the state of the country, is a subject too extensive to be entered upon by Your Committee, without exceeding the bounds prescribed to them by the nature of the reference made to them by the House. They lament its weight, because, however imposed, taxes must necessarily abridge the resources and comforts of those by whom they are ultimately paid. But the question for more immediate consideration is, whether, in the distribution of this unavoidable evil, the profits of farming capital have been heretofore, or can permanently be more affected, than the profits of capital engaged in other branches of industry. They cannot discover any grounds for believing that, during the war, when taxation was carried to its greatest amount, the profit of farming capital was lowered in its relative proportion to the profit of other active capitals; and whatever may be the temporary effect of a casual derangement, it is obvious that this proportion must permanently be maintained, because the application of capital would otherwise be changed from one mode of employment to the other, until the proper level was restored.

So far therefore as taxes fall upon the profits of the active capitals of the country, whatever may be the objects upon which they immediately attach, or the parties by whom they are, in the first instance, paid, they operate, in their ultimate effect, as an abatement of those profits, equally affecting the trading, the manufacturing, and the farming interests, by diminishing their means either of enjoyment, or of accumulating further capital by savings from their annual incomes.

The manner and extent in which other classes of the community, and other sources of income may be affected by taxation, do not come directly within the scope of the present enquiry; but Your Committee think it necessary to notice a doctrine which has prevailed in some quarters,—that the price of corn in this country, in order to remunerate the grower, must increase in the same ratio as the amount of our public revenue, so that if the latter be doubled the price of corn must be doubled also. If this assumption were well founded, it would follow, that, exclusively of any change in the value of money, the remunerating price in 1821, would be nearly one-third lower than it was in 1814, taxes not much short of that proportion to the whole of our revenue having been taken off in Great Britain since that year. But, without denying that the price of corn may be in some degree affected by adding to our general taxation, and that any charges particularly paid by the farmer, such as tithes and poor rates, must tend more directly to raise that price, it is obvious, from what has been already stated, that the cost of growing corn in any country is regulated by the amount of capital necessary to produce it upon lands paying no rent, and that it is the price of the portion of corn which is so raised that determines the price of all other corn; and that an increase of general taxes, affecting alike the profits of capital in all the different branches of industry, would not necessarily raise the price of the particular produce of any one. The price of corn, therefore, might fall in a country, notwithstanding additional taxation, if the quantity required for the consumption of that country could be raised, either by the cultivation of more fertile and productive soils, or by the application of a diminished capital to the same soil, in consequence of increased skill or improvements in husbandry.

In fact, no rise in the price of corn appears to have taken place during three of the wars in which this country was engaged during the last century, compared with the prices of the years preceding and succeeding those wars; and during the last of them, the American war, prices were lower than during the peace. This circumstance is the more to be remarked, as there never was perhaps a period at which the burthen of taxation appeared to press more heavily upon the resources of the country, and in which an annual increase of taxes, accompanied with an annual diminution of revenue, and a general stagnation of improvements, indicated more strongly that a part of those taxes must have been paid out of the capital, and not out of the income of the nation.

On the other hand, however immense the expenditure of the last war, it is impossible to review the vast private undertakings, begun and completed during that war, in every branch of industry, without feeling that those funds by which alone the productive powers of the country can be put in motion, must have been greatly increased, and that the accumulation of national capital, however impaired by loans, or retarded by taxes, has, upon the whole, been large and progressive during that period.

If in the same space of time the national capital of some other country has not increased, or has increased only in a much smaller proportion, the mere comparison of the nominal amount of the public revenue of that country with the public revenue of this country, as they stood at the commencement of the period, and as they now stand, might lead to an unfair inference in respect to the degree in which each country has been affected by increased taxation. If the weight of the public burthens of a country be considered in reference to its population only, then (with the exception of Holland perhaps,) England is the most taxed portion of Europe; but if it be measured by the aggregate of national capital, or income arising from capital, divided by the total number of people among whom that capital or income is distributed, it may then be doubted, whether, upon such an average, the proportion of tax to the income or capital of each individual, be not less in England than in several states of the continent, or even in Ireland; and whether it be materially greater now than at former periods, when both the capital, the population, and the public revenue of England, were far below what they now are. But whatever might be the consolatory result of such a comparison, if the means of making it could be accurately ascertained, and however sanguine a hope Your Committee may entertain that peace will afford increased facility and encouragement to further accumulation, it is not less the duty of Government directly to aid that accumulation, by diminishing our expenditure, and thus both to improve the comforts and to stimulate the skill and enterprize of those classes, by whose industry and savings the capital of the whole kingdom is augmented. This duty, important at all times, appears to Your Committee to be still more so, under the present circumstances of the country; for, whilst they are desirous of correcting the mistaken opinion, that the depression under which our Agriculture now labours, is either exclusively or principally to be attributed to taxation, they cannot disguise from themselves, that the weight of the public burthens of the country, their nominal amount remaining the same, must be more severely felt, in proportion as the money-incomes derived from trading, farming, and manufacturing capital and industry, are diminished. No exertion, therefore, should be omitted to endeavour to reduce those burthens, as nearly as circumstances will permit, in the degree in which such incomes may have been reduced; for, in considering this subject, it is important to bear in mind, that the general amount and real pressure of
taxation

taxation have been positively increased in the proportion of the improved value of our currency.

Your Committee cannot conclude the Observations which they have found it their duty to submit to the House, without observing, that most of the Petitions referred to them, complain of the inadequate and injurious operation of the present Corn Law, and pray generally for protection, not for grain only, but for all the productions of our Agriculture, equal to the protection given to the manufactures of this country.

Within this principle, the Petitioners appear to be friendly to an open trade; but in the application of it, as expounded in some of the petitions, and illustrated in the examination of some of the witnesses, Your Committee cannot but apprehend, that the duties which they contemplate, would be altogether prohibitory.

It cannot be necessary to enter into any statements to show, that, practically, this would be the result, in all but seasons of scarcity, of a fixed duty of 40*S.* a quarter upon wheat. Your Committee will merely repeat what they have already stated, that when the trade in corn with the continent was open, subject to the scale of duties imposed by the Acts of 1773, 1791 and 1804, and in force till 1815, there never was an importation of foreign corn to any amount during the short intervals when the high duties were demandable; and yet those duties at no part of the time exceeded 24*S.* & 3*d.* per quarter. To this fact, they will only add, that what is proposed, in addition to the amount of the duty, namely, that it should be permanent, "whatever may be the price," is a proposition which Your Committee are confident the legislature could never entertain, nor any considerable portion of the community ever countenance.

The suggestions with respect to duties equally prohibitory on every other article the production of the soil of this country, all come under the same principle, and are open to the same objection. The principle would, in fact, go far to annihilate commercial intercourse altogether; and is moreover founded, as it appears to Your Committee, upon a mistaken statement, as well as an erroneous view of what is deemed protection to our manufactures.

In the first place, they feel the more warranted in affirming, that the argument of the petitioners rests in part upon a misconception of facts; as they observe, that one of the witnesses, in order to illustrate his ideas and the wishes of the petitioners, has furnished a table of the duties payable on foreign manufactured articles, of which several are subject to direct heavy duties of excise in this country; and upon which the importation duty, as for instance upon the article of glass, is imposed in a great measure to countervail the duty upon that article manufactured in this kingdom.

But the main grounds upon which Your Committee are disposed to think that the House will look with some mistrust to the soundness of this principle, are—first, that it may be well doubted, whether (with the exception of silk) any of our considerable manufactures derive benefit from this assumed protection in the markets of this country: for how could the foreign manufactures of cotton, of woollens, of hardware, compete with our own in this country, when it is notorious that we can afford to undersell them in the products of those great branches of our manufacturing industry, even in their own markets, notwithstanding that cotton and wool are subject to a direct duty on importation, not drawn back upon their export in a manufactured state, as well as to all the indirect taxation, which affects capital in these branches, in common with that capital which is employed in raising
668. the

the productions of the soil? Secondly, that there exists this most essential difference between the effect of protection given to the manufacturer, (even if he did not enjoy from natural causes, a preference in the home market) and the attempt at a similar protection and monopoly to the produce of the soil;—that in all employment of capital, either in trade or manufactures, profits are limited by competition. If, for any length of time, or from any circumstances, profits are increased, in any particular branch, above the accustomed average, additional capital seeks employment in that branch, and profits are again speedily reduced to their former level. This would equally be the case if the demand for that particular article were doubled; and it may further frequently happen, as we have witnessed of late years, (in all goods, for instance, wrought of iron and cotton,) that, owing to discoveries in mechanical and chemical science, and improvements in the manufacture, an immense increase of consumption may be concomitant with, and probably, in a great degree, the result of, a great fall in price.

The same principle, it is true, applies to the capital and business of the farmer; but with this important distinction, that the price of corn, taken for any series of years, is necessarily regulated by the expense of production upon the lands which, at that price, make no return beyond the charge of raising it, together with the ordinary profit of the capital employed upon those lands. The cultivator of such lands, for the time, is upon a footing with the merchant and the manufacturer; but if the demand for corn were doubled it would force into cultivation poorer lands, requiring a larger capital to raise the same quantity of produce; the price of that produce would determine the price of the whole, or those poorer lands could not be maintained in cultivation; for there cannot permanently be two rates of profit in the same occupation. It is sufficient for Your Committee to point out this ground of difference, and to leave it to the judgment of the House, in connection with the observations which they have already submitted in a former part of this Report.

Another wish expressed by some of the Petitioners, and some of the witnesses, is for the repeal of that clause in the last Act, which allows the warehousing in the United Kingdom of foreign corn, when it cannot be taken out for home consumption.

The grounds upon which this alteration of the law is suggested, for the relief of the British grower, are two-fold. 1st. That the foreign corn absorbs the capitals of the dealers which would otherwise be employed in speculating in corn of British growth; and, secondly, that it enables them to hold, in the warehouses of this country, a large stock of foreign wheat, the notoriety of which depresses the markets, from the dread of its being poured in so soon as it is set free by the prices rising above 80 S.

The first objection proceeds upon two assumptions, both of which appear to Your Committee doubtful; 1st, that the capitals of the dealers are absorbed in this foreign speculation; and 2ndly, that, if not so employed, they would speculate with them in British corn. Your Committee conceive that there is no fixed amount of capital assigned to this trade, and that it is governed by the same principles which stimulate the application of capital in all other branches of foreign or domestic commerce. The value of all the foreign corn now in this country, which cannot be sold for home consumption till the price shall, for some weeks, have exceeded 80 S. a quarter, is probably less than one million sterling. British corn, by the last return, was about 53 S. per quarter. Can there be a doubt, if an impression prevailed generally, that it would rise to 79 S. before the next harvest, that abundant capital would be found for speculation; and is not

not the want of it, at this moment, rather to be received as evidence of an apprehension, that in the event of another productive harvest, the present low prices would not be improved?

Upon the second objection, Your Committee have only to remark, that it is unquestionably true, that the present accumulation of a great quantity of foreign corn, the surplus of the two or three last harvests on the continent, would have a considerable influence upon the prices here, in the event of the ports being opened in consequence of a deficient harvest. But the question is, whether that influence would not be nearly, if not altogether, the same, under that contingency, if that accumulation were altogether at the shipping ports of Holland, or other parts of the continent, instead of being divided between them and the warehouses of this country? Should the prices here be fluctuating between 70*S.* and 80*S.* some small difference might perhaps be produced by the knowledge of the accumulation in our own warehouses, stimulating the British grower to bring his own corn to market, to keep down the price when it was approaching to the import rate, in order to shut out the foreign supply. But in this respect, accurate information must be to him an advantage. The time might also be a little varied at which a part of the foreign corn, upon the ports being opened, might find its way hither. But this difference would not be considerable, the ports of Flanders and Holland being as convenient for the Thames as most of our own ports from which corn is shipped for London.

Having stated the grounds upon which Your Committee are of opinion that the expectations which have been entertained of advantage from the repeal of this clause, are not likely to be realized, they conceive that the views in which it was introduced of making this country a deposit of foreign grain, from which either our own occasional wants, or those of other nations, might be supplied, are, independent of other considerations, too much in unison with our general warehousing system, from which this country derives such important commercial advantages, to be abandoned, without further proof of their prejudicial effects to our Agriculture, than any which Your Committee have been able to collect from the evidence.

It is material to observe, also, that the warehousing of foreign corn in this country, has this great advantage, that it places the supply of our wants, to the extent of the quantity warehoused, out of the reach of foreign states, putting it out of their power, in a season of scarcity, to aggravate the pressure of those wants, either by prohibiting the export of corn, or by imposing a heavy duty upon that export. The fact of upwards of 100,000 of quarters of wheat having been recently sent from the warehouses of this country to the Mediterranean, further shows that this facility of deposit is not a matter of indifference to the commerce and navigation of this country.

An impression prevails in many quarters, that large quantities of corn, imported since February 1819, have recently been introduced into home consumption. This could only have occurred by a fraudulent evasion of the law. Of the existence of this practice to a great extent, Your Committee have received many intimations. They appear, however, to rest upon vague rumours, which the parties, when called upon, have not come forward, or not been able to substantiate, except in one instance, the particulars of which Your Committee forbear to state, as it is understood that the persons concerned in the attempt, are now under prosecution. They will only observe, that the quantity stated to have been withdrawn was inconsiderable, and that it appears to them, if further security be requisite against the recurrence of this fraud, that regulations for that

purpose may easily be devised and introduced into the Bill, now before the House, for better ascertaining the averages.

Instead of expressing doubts with respect to the remedies which have been suggested by others, it would have been far more satisfactory to Your Committee, to have been enabled to conclude their labours by pointing out some immediate measure of alleviation, which would have been efficacious at once to mitigate the distress, and to allay the alarm which prevail among the Agricultural classes of the community.

If such an expedient could have been found, even in a temporary departure from any sound and recognized principle of general policy on this subject, or in any modification of the existing law which could now be attempted, they might have been disposed to submit it to the favourable consideration of the House; but when, after a long and anxious inquiry, they have not been able to discover any means, which, in their estimation, are calculated immediately to remove the present pressure, they know too well their own duty to the House, and feel too much respect for the manly character of that class of the community, whose difficulties have been the object of their investigation, either to attempt to disguise the view which they have taken of the origin and nature of those difficulties, or to recommend that specific plan of relief pointed out by the suffering parties, which, however sanctioned by the arguments and prayer of their Petitions, appears to be founded in delusion, and likely therefore to lead only to disappointment.

So far as the present depression in the markets of Agricultural produce is the effect of abundance from our own growth, the inconvenience arises from a cause which no legislative provision can alleviate; so far as it is the result of the increased value of our money, it is one not peculiar to the farmer, but which has been and still is experienced by many other classes of society. That result however is the more severely felt by the tenant, in consequence of its coincidence with an overstocked market, especially if he be farming with a borrowed capital and under the engagements of a lease; and it has hitherto been further aggravated by the comparative slowness with which prices generally, and particularly the price of labour, accommodate themselves to a change in the value of money.

From this circumstance, combined with other causes, the departure from our antient standard, in proportion as it was prejudicial to all creditors of money and persons dependent on fixed incomes, was a benefit to the active capitals of the country; and it cannot be denied that the restoration of that standard has, in its turn, been proportionally disadvantageous to many individuals belonging to the productive classes of the community, and especially to those who had engaged in speculative adventures, either of farming or trade.

That restoration must also be accompanied with embarrassment to the landowner, in proportion as his estate is encumbered with mortgages or other fixed payments, assigned upon it during the period when land and rents were raised to an artificial value, in reference to the impaired value of the money in which those encumbrances were contracted.

From the cessation of public loans, the probability of large accumulations of capital, and the constant operation of such a sinking fund, as in the present state of our finances, may, henceforward during the continuance of peace, be regularly appropriated to the reduction of the public debt, Your Committee trust that the rate of interest of money, may, in a short time,

time, be so far reduced below the legal *maximum*, as to make those encumbrances a lighter burthen upon the landed interests of the kingdom. It is an alleviation which former intervals of peace have produced, at periods in many respects less favourable to its attainment; and if, in the present instance, the want of that alleviation is become more urgent, Your Committee venture to hope that, from the greater accumulation of capital in the country, co-operating with the effects of a positive and steady reduction of the public debt, this salutary result will also be more speedily brought about. They look forward to this mode of easing the encumbrances of the landlord with the more anxiety, as, amidst all the injury and injustice which an unsettled currency,—an evil they trust never again to be incurred,—has in succession cast upon the different ranks of society, the share of that evil which has now fallen upon the landed interest, is the only one which, without inflicting greater injury and greater injustice, admits (now that we are so far advanced in the system of a restored currency) of no other relief. The difficulties, great as they unfortunately are, in which it has involved the farming, the manufacturing and trading interests of the country, must diminish in proportion as contracts, prices, and labour, adjust themselves to the present value of money. That this change is now in progress, and has already taken place to a considerable degree, is in evidence before Your Committee. They are satisfied that it will continue until that balance is restored, which will afford to labour its due remuneration, and to capital its fair return. And, although they deeply lament the derangement which the fluctuations of the last ten years, in the value of the currency, have occasioned in all the transactions of life, together with the individual loss and suffering unavoidably produced by the return to a fixed standard, they are satisfied that this was the only course which it was in the power of Parliament to adopt,—as well to prevent the continuance of a derangement, leading, as it must have led, to the aggravation of those losses and sufferings, as to manifest to the world the inflexible determination of this country, rigidly to adhere to that good faith of which the moral character of the people is the sure guardian, and which, with that character, has placed our greatness and our power upon the foundation, hitherto unshaken amidst all our vicissitudes, of public credit and national honour.

18 June 1821.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

TO WHOM THE SEVERAL

PETITIONS complaining of the Depressed State of the
Agriculture of the United Kingdom,

WERE REFERRED.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
18 June 1821.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Lunæ, 12^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Robert Crytoft Harvey;

Called in; and Examined :

STATE to the Committee in what part of the country you reside, and what your business is?—I am a farmer and a miller; I reside at Alburgh, in the county of Norfolk, between Harleston and Bungay in Suffolk.

Mr.
R. C. Harvey

(12 March.)

You farm to the extent of 1,500*l.* a year?—I do.

State to the Committee any thing which is within your knowledge respecting the agricultural distress which exists in the country?—I beg to notice, that from the year 1800 to 1813, the average price of wheat, of which I was a purchaser myself, at my own markets on the borders of Norfolk and Suffolk, something exceeding five hundred quarters weekly, was 89*s.* 8½*d.* for the first fourteen years; for the twenty-one years ending October 20th, 1820, it was 84*s.* 8*d.*; the present average price of wheat by the last Gazette, was 53*s.* 5*d.* making a difference of 36*s.* 3½*d.* per quarter on fourteen years, and 31*s.* 3*d.* on twenty-one years, or equal to a depreciation of 37 per cent. Barley, for the first fourteen years, 40*s.* 7¼*d.*; for twenty-one years, 40*s.* 6½*d.*; the present average price, 24*s.* 1*d.*; making a difference of 16*s.* 6¾*d.* for fourteen years, and 16*s.* 5½*d.* or 40 per cent for twenty-one years. Peas, for fourteen years, 75*s.* 6*d.*; for twenty-one years, 56*s.* 11*d.*; the present price, 34*s.* 11*d.*; making a difference of 40*s.* 7*d.* upon the first fourteen years, and 22*s.* 10¾*d.* or 40 per cent. on the twenty-one years. Beans, for fourteen years, 42*s.* 1*d.*; for twenty-one years, 40*s.* 7¼*d.*; present price, 32*s.* 4*d.*; making a difference of 9*s.* 9*d.* for fourteen years, and 8*s.* 3¾*d.* or 20 per cent. on twenty-one years. Oats, fourteen years, 26*s.* 3*d.*; twenty-one years, 22*s.* 9¾*d.*; the present price, 17*s.* 1*d.*; making a difference of 9*s.* 2*d.* on fourteen years, and 5*s.* 8¾*d.* or 25 per cent. on twenty-one years. Butter per firkin, fourteen years, 61*s.* 3¼*d.*; twenty-one years, 59*s.* 6¼*d.*; present price, 45*s.*; making a difference of 16*s.* 3¼*d.* on fourteen years, and 14*s.* 6¼*d.* or 24 per cent. on twenty-one years. Derby Cheese, the average, fourteen years, 7*d.* per pound; on twenty-one years, 6½*d.*; the present price, 5*d.*; making a difference in the first fourteen years of 2*d.* a pound, and 1½*d.* in the twenty-one years, or 23 per cent. Southdown Wool; I beg to observe, the Southdown is taken from the county of Norfolk, which I believe was of the very best quality, for fourteen years it averaged 67*s.* 3*d.* per tod of 28 pounds; and for twenty-one years, 63*s.*; the present price, 35*s.*; making a difference of 22*s.* 3*d.* for fourteen years, and 18*s.* or 44 per cent. on twenty-one years.

Do you refer to the present market price?—I have heard of no higher price for some weeks than 33*s.* but I believe 35*s.* is the outside, that is certainly the highest price at the present moment. Tallow for fourteen years, 71*s.* 11¾*d.* per cwt. for twenty-one years, 71*s.* 4*d.*; the present price, 46*s.*; making a difference of 25*s.* 11¾*d.* on fourteen years, and 25*s.* 4*d.* or 35 per cent. on twenty-one years. Hides, per stone of 8 pounds, for fourteen years, 3*s.* 0¾*d.*; for twenty-one years, 2*s.* 10*d.*; the present price, 2*s.* 4*d.*; making a difference of 8¾*d.* on the first fourteen years, and 6*d.* on twenty-one years, or twenty per cent. Poors rate; I beg here to observe, I have taken it accurately from my own parish, we are the lowest parish in the hundred; I do not mean to state that this is a general thing in the county, for I know a great many which are higher than ours. The poors rate in our own parish was, for the first fourteen years, 5*s.* 5*d.*; for the twenty-one years, it was 5*s.* 11½*d.*; it is 10*s.* for the present year, and for last year it was 10*s.* in the pound, making an increase of 4*s.* 7*d.* on the first fourteen years, and of 4*s.* 0½*d.* or 82 per cent. on twenty-one years.

Mr.
R. C. Harvey.

(12 March.)

Is that on a rack rent?—No, it is not on a rack rent, but it is very close to it; we are rated at about a pound an acre.

Is yours an incorporated hundred?—No; I pay to an incorporated hundred, where the poor's rates are much more increased than that.

What is the population of your parish?—I think about nine hundred; the price of labour for the first fourteen years was 2s. 0½d. per day, for twenty-one years on the average 2s. per day; the present price 1s. 9d. making a decrease of 3½d. on the first fourteen years, of 3d. or 12½ per cent on twenty-one years. The price of Southdown Sheep—I am here quoting my own average, which was 52s. 6d. for twenty-one years; I had, unfortunately, a hundred in the market this day week, which were turned out, part of them till Friday, and they produced me only 161l. 8s. 9d. which is a depreciation of 20s. 3d. each, or 38½ per cent. By this statement it will appear, there is a depreciation in the average of all agricultural produce of near 31 per cent. and in those which the farmer has most to depend upon of 40 per cent. whilst the poor's rate is advanced 82 per cent, and the taxes 75 per cent. I beg leave to say, that is my own advance; I by no means know whether it is more or less with others, and the price of labour reduced only 12½ per cent.

What taxes do you include; King's taxes and parish taxes?—The King's taxes only.

The direct taxes; not taking in the leather tax, and so on?—Only the direct taxes; I pay as a farmer and miller myself.

You pay 75 per cent more now than you did when you paid the property tax?—No; I do not include the property tax at all.

Have you increased your establishment?—I have.

You live perhaps in a larger house:—I live in the same house, but certainly my establishment has been increased. The price of labour is reduced only twelve and a half per cent, and at present the reduction of rent and tithes not so much; it will I trust be clear to this honourable Committee, that the farmer is losing more than the full value of his rent. As a further proof of this, I beg to lay before the Committee a correct statement of the gross produce of my own farm for the last ten years, of the rent and value of 1,000l. per annum; the remainder of my farm I have taken since, and is not included in this amount. In 1811 I made 5,112l. 10s. 6d.; in 1812, 4,845l. 12s. 4d.; in 1813, 6,657l. 9s.; making the average of those three years, 5,538l. 10s. 8d.: In 1814, 4,223l. 14s. 7d.; in 1815, 4,029l. 5s. 9d.; in 1816, 3,699l. 17s. 5d. making the average 3,984l. 5s. 11d. of those three years, which I call the three bad years, the time of the distress: In 1817, which was a wet harvest, 7,096l. 4s. 6d.; in 1818, 7,544l. 0s. 6d.; in 1819, 5,941l. 14s. making an average of 6,860l. 13s. those I call three good years: In 1820, 4,099l. 13s. 10d.; the total amount of the ten years is 53,252l. 2s. 7d. making an average of 5,325l. 4s. 1½d. But at the scale of reduced prices between this year and last, for I have not threshed all my corn, and therefore I must take that on a supposition of what it will make, that will not exceed 3,279l. 14s. by which it will appear a deficiency of 2,044l. 6s. or 38 per cent, will arise this year; but making an allowance for an extra quantity of barley and oats per acre, I believe the deficiency will be as near 31 per cent as possible. I hope this Committee will allow me to state, that I believe the first fall in wheat to be occasioned by the ports continuing open for foreign wheat in November 1818, thereby leaving not less than one million quarters in hand when the ports closed in February 1819; a great part of which was kept back till the advance took place in February 1820; from that time till August it had a free sale, when the ports opening for oats and admitting nearly 800,000 quarters, the prices of all grain fell; for as oats could not be disposed of in Ireland, Scotland, or in some parts of England, these places were compelled to live upon oat flour, and send their wheat to London and other markets, in such overwhelming quantities as to force the prices to their present ruinous state; and I beg to observe, that I think the return to this market last week, was two-thirds of it Irish corn. To those gentlemen who doubt that Ireland is capable of growing a good quality, I beg to show a sample of 1,000 quarters for which I offered 58s. a quarter last Friday; it is in the hands of Begbie, Farrand and Company. There are still 50,000 quarters of free foreign wheat in London, and supposing as much more in the outports, 100,000 quarters are still in hand; add to this 733,762 quarters of wheat, and 178,751 cwt. of meal and flour under lock, and it will account for the disinclination of the merchant to purchase, who has the little spare cash remaining set fast with this foreign corn; and I fear the markets must remain in this dull state till there is an increase of the circulating medium, for I cannot believe an excess of crop, or, as far as my own trade goes, any diminution of consumption of bread. The west of England had a fine crop and quality, but the

the prices at their markets have been more reduced, from the immense supplies received from Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man, than from an abundant crop of their own; this added to what they may have taken from under lock, (as is generally said of one of the Southampton merchants) will account for the lowness of that market, which has sent a good deal even to Norfolk, and contributed very much to the reduction which has taken place in London.

Are you the owner as well as the occupier of the land you farm?—I own about two-thirds.

Explain to the Committee in what way the taxes you pay have increased seventy-five per cent?—In the first place, twenty years ago I paid for only one saddle or pleasure horse, I now pay for four, as the law obliges me to pay for the horse my bailiff rides, as well as a tax for him; I kept no sort of conveyance, I now keep a gig (which is all the extra comfort I have); I paid nothing at that time for cart horses, I now pay for forty odd; therefore my own taxes come to a great deal more than I have stated, I am paying more than cent per cent.

You spoke of the value of your crop the two last years as being much less than in the preceding year; was your quantity of wheat the same?—Rather an increase of quantity of acres; I can state the number of acres every year.

How many acres have you of profitable land?—Eight hundred and fifty of profitable land, two-thirds arable, one-third grass; my own land is certainly of the first quality.

Are you aware what the importation has been from Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man, which you suppose has depressed the western markets?—I suppose it, because Westlake and Ball of Southampton, have informed me of it; and they are willing to attend to give evidence; but I am not aware of the quantity.

What has the poor rate risen since 1814?—Four shillings in the pound.

Does not the quantity of free foreign wheat now on hand, as stated by you, the improvement in the agriculture of Ireland, the increased importation from that country, and the good crops which we have lately had ourselves, account for a great part of the fall in the price of agricultural produce, without ascribing more than a very limited effect to the diminution in the quantity of currency?—My own opinion is, that currency has more to do with it, than either the importations we have had, or the abundance of the crop; and I would beg merely to state, that in our own counties, Suffolk and Norfolk, some years ago, you could discount Bills without any difficulty. At the present moment, they must be of the very first character, and that only to a limited extent; and I think, speaking of myself, if I had a larger capital, I should have bought wheat more freely at the present prices; and I believe other persons would do the same.

To the other causes you would ascribe a part of the fall?—Yes, perhaps as much as to the currency; my own real opinion is the one as much as the other.

Do any of the labourers employed by you on your farm receive relief from the poors rates?—Certainly, some of them; but a small proportion.

What proportion of their weekly receipts do they receive from you, and what proportion from the parish fund?—It is only those who have very large families, or are sick; I have no able bodied men who receive from the parish, but there are old men whose labour would not be worth the money they subsist upon; their subsistence is made up out of the poors rates: if a man has a very large family, if he is a good workman, we generally take care to give him the best work, and to enable him to support his family: it is my principle to let each man live by his labour if I can, but in four parishes in which I am concerned, take nine out of ten of the occupiers, they have very much reduced their number of labourers, and as being the largest payer in the parish, I must either employ them, or pay a great proportion of the poors rates; therefore I employ as many as I can.

Do you know any thing about the disposition of the poors rates in your parish, as they may be paid to manufacturing poor, or to the agricultural poor?—We have no manufacturing poor, except in a very small proportion, the linen weavers; and they certainly are receiving a much greater share of allowance than the agricultural poor are, they are more distressed.

Do you know in what proportion the capital of the farmer contributes to the poors rates, compared with the capital of the manufacturer?—As a miller, occupying a rental of 600*l.* a year, I do not pay a sixth of what I do as a farmer in the same rates; we pay very little poors rates in relation to trade; the trades in our counties, Suffolk and Norfolk, pay very little to the poors rates in comparison to what the land pays; it is a large trade indeed that pays 20*l.* a year.

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You have stated the average of the gross produce of three years in three distinct times; can you state the average profit at each of those three periods.—The expenditure was very nearly equal at one time and the other; there was a loss upon the average of the three bad years.

At the end of 1813, your average was 5,538*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*; can you state the average profit upon those three years.—I am afraid I cannot, with the materials I have with me.

Was there a profit on those three years?—Certainly, a very good one.

Was there a profit on the three next?—Certainly not.

On the three last, when your average was 6,860*l.* 13*s.*—A profit.

The amount you cannot state?—No, I cannot; if I was at home I could state it correctly; but I have not gone into that, conceiving that if I proved the gross produce of the farm; one man may lay out an immense sum of money, and another may not, and one man may make a loss where there ought to be a gain.

Have you adopted any alteration in your mode of cultivation, in consequence of the state of the times?—No, I have not.

How long have you occupied the farm?—I have been twenty-six years in the occupation of part of it; I have occupied the whole only from the time I took the first average.

Does your present rent bear the same proportion to the total value of the produce now as it did in the early period to which you have referred?—Certainly not, nothing like it; the rent has advanced, whilst the average price is very little more.

You have made some calculation upon that which is your own, and are able to speak to that which you pay, for the other part?—Yes.

What is the difference between the assumed rent upon the one, and the actual rent of the other, as it stands now and as it stood twenty years ago?—I am not prepared to state that at the moment.

What is the length of time for which leases are generally granted in your county?—Twelve and fourteen to twenty-one years.

If you now knew that at the expiration of your lease, and not before, the trade in corn would be free, and foreign corn allowed to be imported, and you should in consequence be certain that at that time corn would fall in price in this country to the level of prices in other countries, would you not have it in your power to guard yourself against any loss of capital from such a prospective measure, supposing that in the mean time you were effectually protected from foreign competition, excepting at a very high price?—Certainly; if I knew it myself, and it was not generally known, I could put off my farm, or get rid of my stock without much loss; but if it was generally known, I apprehend there would be all sellers and no buyers.

Would there be a general competition more than exists at present, before the time that your lease expires?—I conceive so.

There would be no more quantity of foreign corn?—No; but I think that corn is governed more by general opinion, than by the quantity at market, or the real demand; if people fancy, that the prices will be higher, they run it up; if they believe it will be lower, it falls.

In what manner does a generally abundant harvest affect the interest of the farmer?—Beneficially, certainly; high prices will not make up for a deficient crop.

Does not the supply of produce exceeding the wants of the consumer, operate in lowering the price much more than in proportion to the excess of such supply?—Certainly it does.

How then do you reconcile this answer with the answer you have just given?—Because the buyers, seeing an excess at market, believe that that excess will still come, and that prices will go lower, and that tends to drive down the price.

If the price falls more than in proportion to the increased quantity, the whole amount obtained by the farmer must be less than if the supply were not so great?—Certainly; we have had a strong corroboration of what has just been mentioned, in the London market; it has kept falling for many weeks; the excess has been but very little, but it has been from the idea that the quantity would be fully equal to the demand, and that has induced people to buy very sparingly.

Suppose the demand to be for ten millions of quarters of corn, and the supply, in consequence of a good season, to be twelve millions of quarters; will not the fall below the average price be much more than in the proportion of two, the excess, to ten the average quantity?—Certainly it will, very much more.

How much more?—In the present state of the corn market, it is impossible to say how much more; it would be much more than would generally be calculated upon, or even believed.

If

If the prices of corn in this country were nearly on a level with the prices of other countries, would not a slight fall in the price here, from an abundant harvest, afford immediately an encouragement to its exportation; and would not that circumstance prevent its falling so low in the home market as it would fall, if the ordinary level of our prices were 20, 30 or 40 s. higher than the level of prices in other countries?—I should think not; because I expect that the prices on the Continent would fall in proportion as there was a probability of receiving supplies from this country.

But you allow that if the level of prices were equal, so far it would be favourable to a vent for our corn?—Certainly it would; if the prices were equal, it would be in favour of this country, because the merchants of this country have more energy, and would ship to places, to which other merchants would never think of shipping, and so far they would have an advantage.

If then the farmer could get the same rate of profits on his capital, it would be advantageous to him that the ordinary and general rate of prices for raw produce in this country, should be on a level or lower than the prices of other countries?—Certainly it would be to the advantage of the farmer, if he could reap the same profits, because he would employ a much less capital.

Do you think that the profits of the farmer, provided there was no excess of supply, would be greater with a higher or a low price of raw produce?—Certainly greater with a higher, because the higher the price of what we grow and have to take to market, it must be to our advantage; it is not buying at a high price and selling at a high price again; it is the produce of the earth.

Is not the rent which the farmer pays to his landlord, on the renewal of his lease, regulated by the price at which his produce sells?—Certainly.

Taking that into consideration, may not a low price of corn be more beneficial to the farmer than a high price?—I do not consider at the present prices of corn, and the present expenditure of the farmer, that there is any thing left for rent at all; rent is quite out of the question.

You were asked, not as to the present state of things, but to your general opinion, supposing that grain bore the price that it ought to bear, in order to repay the farmer for the expenses of raising the produce?—For the six and twenty years I have been in business, the higher the prices, the greater the profit has always been to the farmer.

Do tithes raise the price of corn, and thereby fall on the consumer, or do they operate on the renewal of leases, to lower rent, and consequently to affect the interests of land owners?—They certainly tend to lower the rents, for wherever a clergyman is known to take a high tythe, the landlord, if he is a landlord who exacts to the utmost, takes less.

What is the lowest rent you have ever known to be paid for the worst land on which corn is raised?—Eighteen pence an acre.

Such land would not be cultivated, if the price of corn were not sufficient to pay both tithe and rent?—Certainly not.

If there had been no tithes, would not the same land have been cultivated with the same profit, with a lower price of corn?—Certainly; because the tithe is part of it.

Suppose the tythes to be generally doubled, would such land as you have spoken of, be cultivated with any profit to the farmer, and with the same rent to the landlord, unless the price of corn rose?—Certainly not.

If then there was a demand for the same quantity of corn as before, the condition of its supply would be, that the price should rise equally to the additional duty, which this increase of tithes would occasion?—Certainly.

Does it not then appear that the tythes operate to raise the price of corn, and not to diminish the rent to the landlord?—I certainly think not; I think they tend to diminish the value of the land to the landlord.

Does the land, at eighteen-pence an acre, pay tythe or not?—It might pay, but it would be a trifle; there is very little land cultivated now that is let at eighteen-pence an acre; it never could pay at the present prices.

How many quarters of wheat per acre do you expect your land to produce in average years?—My wheat has averaged thirty bushels per acre the last ten years.

How many quarters of barley per acre do you expect your land to produce?—It has averaged forty-three bushels and a peck.

If you charged no rent upon your farm, what is the lowest price of wheat which would pay you for cultivating it, without leaving any profit upon the capital expended?—About fifty-six shillings a quarter, supposing all other expenses to be as they are now.

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Do you mean to say, that it must be fifty-six shillings, paying no rent, and not allowing interest for your capital?—That is my idea at the present price of 55 s. 3 d. I consider that the rent is totally sunk.

After you have paid your expenses, should you have any profit on your farm without paying any rent at all?—Not at 56 s.

Do you mean to say, it would not yield you interest upon your capital?—Certainly interest on the capital, but nothing left for rent.

If you had to pay rent, that would be a positive loss? I consider the rent to be positively lost, at the present price of corn.

What interest do you mean on your capital?—Five per cent.

Do the taxes on the land and the expenses of cultivation together, amount to 56 s. per quarter?—I mean, that if a farmer hires a farm at any given rent, he would receive, at 56 s. a quarter, his reimbursement for labour and for interest of money employed, but that he would have nothing left to pay the rent.

What is the value per acre of your land on the average?—I valued my farm at 1,500 l. per annum.

What part of the gross produce of the farm do you consider the corn?—I have always half of my arable land with corn, one-fourth of the whole wheat, and one-fourth barley or oats.

You state, that in the year 1820, the gross produce was 4,099 l. what proportion of that do you conceive was from corn?—2,720 l. 18 s. 2 d.

How many men do you employ upon your farm?—I can only say, at Christmas-day I had, men women and boys, (I employ a good many of the two latter,) fifty-three; I know the number on that day, giving them a dinner on that day.

Is that number more or less than you used to employ?—I think the number is increased, because a less number being employed by others I employ them for the sake of keeping them off the rates.

Then you maintain a larger number now, though at low prices, than if the prices were higher and they could get other employment?—Certainly.

What is the depreciation of the capital you have in your farm to what it was last year?—I should think about 788 l.

Have you compared what was the value of your whole crop and stock in the present year, with what it was three years ago?—I cannot state that here.

You have stated that nine-tenths of the people have decreased their scale of labour, have they made any change in their system of farming?—They have very much reduced the quantity of stock they kept on their farms.

Have they reduced their green crops?—Certainly, in a small degree; there is a less quantity of turnips sown.

If they have reduced their labour, in what state is their management, as compared with former times?—Getting worse, of course.

Is it your opinion that the state of agriculture is degenerating?—Certainly, at the present moment.

You state that you have no manufactures in the parishes you are concerned with, and that the poors rates, since 1814, have increased 4 s. in the pound, can you account for this? does it arise from an increased population, a low rate of wages, or from what other cause?—From the inferior labourers being turned out of employ, and being obliged to be employed on the roads and gravel pits by the overseer.

From any other cause that you are aware of?—Certainly, from the inability of the farmers to pay them, that is the first cause; it is within a very few years that I ever knew a labourer in our parish to want employment; it is only within the last few years we have been obliged to put on men we did not want, but we have had eight, nine, and ten men, put on the roads, doing very little good; but that is better than idleness.

In your opinion, the increased poors rate arises from the inability of the cultivator of the soil to employ the poor?—Certainly.

Have you what are called rounds men in your parish?—No; that is done in some some neighbouring parishes to a great extent, indeed some under my own knowledge.

What reduction have you made in the price of daily wages, comparing this year with what you paid three years ago?—I am now paying twenty-one pence per day; the highest price I ever paid was 2 s. 6 d.

The years 1817 and 1818 were years of great produce?—We had a wet harvest, and that adds very much to the price, and it adds very much to the quantity.

Were your labourers those years without employment?—Certainly not; they were fully employed.

Then

Then your poors rates were not in this year 4*s.* higher than they were in former years?—The poors rates in 1816 were only 3*s.* 6*d.* in the pound.

The year in which your poors rate was highest was 1817?—Yes; the magistrates in our hundred, in 1817 and 1818, allowed, over and above what was the day wages, in proportion to what every family had over two children, a certain allowance, which came to a very great sum of money. I recollect giving, in that year, as high as 94*s.* a quarter for wheat; we had some labourers who had that year a pound a week allowance by the magistrates; there was no want of employment, but the sum paid to them was not sufficient to maintain those who had families.

Do you pay your labourers by wheat, or in money?—Always in money.

When you first began business, were you in the habit of making any allowance in beer to your labourers?—Yes; I always gave them beer, for the first fifteen years.

Have you left it off?—Yes, I have.

What induced you to leave it off?—The general practice of the neighbourhood.

Is the general diet of the labouring poor in your neighbourhood better, or worse, than it was when you first began business?—I think there is very little difference. I think the labouring poor with us are as well off now, when they are under good masters and in constant employment as they ever were; but we have a description that are dreadfully distressed, men labouring for nine-pence or a shilling a day, or going on the rounds-men system, as many as forty-four in a parish near mine.

Were they not in the habit of drinking beer more than now?—Much more than they are now, certainly. I believe the brewers in the country have not any thing like the return they had.

Was it the practice of the farmers to have a considerable number of in-door servants when you began business?—Certainly, we used to board them ourselves at that time.

When was that practice discontinued generally?—Very much reduced in the year 1801, when the high price of corn was.

To what do you ascribe the discontinuance of the practice?—I think, at that time, it might in a great measure be attributed to the flourishing state that agriculture was in, that people did not like the trouble of it; I believe that is the truth.

Are you of opinion, that in the present state of agriculture that practice is likely to revive?—No, I think it will not; because we should find great difficulty in getting our labourers to it; they are much more content even to eat bread, now they have been so long used to it at their own tables, than they would be to come into the house.

Are the unmarried labourers content?—Certainly, they would prefer it; they are certainly extremely badly off at the present moment, where they are not in service.

In point of fact, you do not know that that practice is beginning to revive of having in-door servants?—It is not with us.

Nor that of giving them beer?—Certainly, there is no increase of that among us. I believe the last harvest there were a great many more men boarded during the harvest than had been in former years.

In your experience, as a miller and a farmer, are you of opinion, that the consumption of wheat corn is diminished?—I think it is not; as far as relates to my own trade in the county of Norfolk, it is increased; I think my own average trade has increased seventy sacks a week among the men I have served for years; but I think there is a diminution of nearly one-half in animal food; taking the opinion of all our principal tanners, they give me that opinion respecting the quantity consumed.

Do they use any other bread but wheaten in Norfolk?—Yes; they use in Norfolk what they call household bread, made of the wheat as it is grown.

Do they use barley?—No.

Does your observation of the state of agriculture in your neighbourhood, enable you to form an opinion, whether, in consequence of the depression of prices, farmers have been induced to lay down larger proportions of their farm in pasture, or to break up larger proportions?—We had an immense quantity of land broken up in my neighbourhood from 1800 to 1813; I think we have had very little broken up lately, and very little laid down; I think the proportion remains very much as it was in 1813.

The arable proportion having increased before that time?—Yes, astonishingly, before 1813.

Can you state, whether any land in your neighbourhood has been thrown out of cultivation?—There has been no land thrown out of cultivation in my neighbourhood;

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hood; but there is a great proportion very fast approaching to bad management, from over-cropping; any gentleman going through the counties I have passed through, will see that there is more double-cropped land, which must be ruinous to the system, than I ever witnessed.

Do you conceive, at the present prices, any land in your neighbourhood is likely to be thrown out of cultivation?—No, I think not with us; because we are on a part of the county where the land is good, and therefore the last that will be thrown out of cultivation.

The land is more cropped?—I have seen more double-cropped land when riding outside the coach lately, than I ever saw before; I think farmers are catching at a straw, and desirous of growing all they can in the year.

Has the population increased in your neighbourhood within the last ten years?—Yes, it has.

Can you account for that?—I cannot.

Does it appear to you that marriages are contracted earlier?—Marriages are earlier than they used to be, certainly.

At what time do persons, having families, apply for relief in your parish?—The moment they have three children, in general.

Do any apply with only one child?—Yes.

Do not they apply for a house the instant of their marriage?—Very frequently, more generally than not; they ask for a bed the first thing.

Are you of opinion, that more in-door labourers being unmarried, would be now hired by the farmer, if he was not afraid that the parties might thereby obtain settlements?—Certainly; it is a great preventive of that unquestionably; I have no hesitation in saying, that it was that which induced me not to hire servants.

Has the rate of men and women servants risen or fallen?—It rose certainly till Michaelmas, 1819; I think from Michaelmas 1819, it has been falling.

In the Report of the Corn Committee of 1814, it appeared, by the evidence of witnesses then examined, that as far as their knowledge went, the rents of land had been about doubled, between 1792 and that year; having reference to the present rents in the neighbourhood with which you are acquainted, are you of opinion that they are now in that proportion with the rents of 1792?—I think there is not much variation between the rents now and in 1814; there was a little fall for the first three years, then there was an advance the next three years, and I think there is now very little variation between now and 1814.

Are the Committee to understand you have been deterred from hiring servants in your house, by the fear of obtaining settlements?—Yes.

Explain your view in that respect, as they may obtain settlements in the parish without living in their master's house?—I have cottages in which they live.

How do you hire them?—At so much a week.

From Michaelmas to Michaelmas?—No, not by the year; therefore they do not gain a settlement.

Is it not the usual practise of those about you, in hiring in-door servants, to hire them from a few days after Michaelmas till the next Michaelmas?—It is.

The whole of your land is good, is it not?—Yes, I have very little but what is good.

Have there not been years in which you have experienced the greatest disappointment, where you have expected the greatest crop?—When I have failed in the crop, it has been on my best land from being too luxuriant, or some other cause.

Your most advantageous seasons have been those in which other parts of this kingdom have failed?—Certainly, that has been the case with my own farm; very strongly so in 1817 and 1818.

If it is the custom in your country to hire from a few days after Michaelmas to Michaelmas, how does that tally with the statement you have made, as to the objection to hiring them in the house on account of their obtaining settlements?—I prefer having them out of the house, and hiring at Michaelmas, because it is not so easy to obtain good servants after Michaelmas has past.

Is it the custom to hire at statute fairs in your neighbourhood?—Not so much as it used to be.

Has there been much land in the district with which you are acquainted, re-let within the last three years?—I have known certainly of a good deal re-let; a good deal has come under my knowledge.

In those re-lettings has there been a great reduction of rent?—Not a great deal.

At this moment would any body give, within a considerable sum, what they did two years

years ago?—Certainly not, I think at the present moment neither landlords like to let, nor tenants to hire; I know of many large estates where the leases are coming out next Michaelmas, and some where they came out last Michaelmas, where the parties are waiting till they see how agriculture will go.

Do you believe that in the present year, with the prices they have had and the present prices, any of them have been able to pay their rent out of the produce of the farms?—A very few; there have been chance instances, particularly in the west of England, where their produce has been so very abundant; with us they lose more than the rent on an average.

The rent this year to their landlords is not out of the produce, but from their capital?—Certainly that is the case generally with us.

Your own farm let at 34 s. 6 d. an acre; if it was to let from Michaelmas next, what do you think would be the highest bidding?—I dare say I could let it at 30 s. because it is in the very highest state of cultivation, and requires but little to keep it in cultivation.

What do you suppose the lands near you would let at, in comparison with what they have been let at?—I should certainly, if I had to value a farm to-morrow, reduce the rent full one-third.

Upon what prospective idea would you do that, what would you take as the prospective price of wheat?—Because I conceive the price of all agricultural produce to be reduced one-third, by the best average I can get of every thing they have to sell.

Then you are supposing the present prices to continue?—If the present prices were to continue I would not advise a son of mine to take a farm at any rate.

Upon what idea of the price of wheat is it you would reduce farms now under lease one-third?—I should certainly expect that all corn, though it may continue at this low price this year, but I have even my doubts about that, for I think wheat will be higher before harvest than it is now but I think it would average for the next seven years considerably above the present price.

Supposing there was a free trade in corn, and that the prices of corn in this country were reduced to the prices on the Continent, what would you give for your farm?—Not one shilling rent, but march out of the country as quickly as I could.

Has there been a considerable fall in the price of fat cattle, including the purchase and fair expenses in fattening; has the farmer sustained a loss upon them?—I think bullocks have paid him, because I conceive the present price of beef has kept up better than any thing else.

Would no fall in the price of labour and the amount of tithes, induce you to keep your present farm at any rent, if the corn was at the same price as it is now on the Continent, if there was a free trade?—I think it would require some little consideration; but I should certainly consider it of no value; if we had a free trade the price of labour could not be reduced very low, for we must maintain the poor; labour is fully equal to land; if the labour could be taken off, or maintained by government, that would make a difference.

Do you think the price of labour depends entirely on the price of corn?—I think it does, in an agricultural country.

If there were a free trade in corn you would expect very great reduction in the price of labour?—Of course there would be; if the labourer was able to get his quartern loaf at four-pence, he would expect less wages.

How much do you calculate that a day-labourer pays for bread-corn out of his wages?—I calculate that each individual eats eight pounds of bread-corn per week.

Supposing a labourer to receive 2 s. a day, what proportion of that goes in your opinion to buy bread?—He would require fourteen pounds of flour, that would cost him about three shillings a week for flour.

Then the remainder goes to buy commodities which are highly taxed?—Of course.

Unless they were reduced he could not reduce his labour?—Certainly not.

When you speak of labour being regulated by the price of corn, do you mean to speak generally, or to confine it only to parishes where there is no more labour than there is a demand for?—It never was the case in our county till lately, that we had more labourers than we wanted, except for a very short time; indeed I conceive labour is like every thing else, it goes to market, and bears a proportion to the demand for it.

You say, if you were to value an estate now, you would value it at one-third less; what period do you refer to, when you say one-third less?—I think the question was put to me, whether now or three years back.

Mr.
R. C. Harvey.

(12 March.)

Then you mean to say, you would value a farm at one-third less than you would three years back?—Yes; it is fully that, probably more; it is a question difficult to answer at the present moment, what is the value of a farm.

Comparing three years ago with fourteen years ago, how would you have valued that three years ago?—I should think twenty per cent higher three years ago, than it was seventeen years ago.

You stated, that the price of wheat was depreciated 37 per cent; you stated also, that the price of labour depends upon the value of bread corn?—I think, upon the value of the agricultural productions altogether; it may possibly happen, that wheat has the greatest sway.

You stated also, that you had lowered your wages from 2s. to 1s. 9d. a day.—Just so.

In consideration of the depreciation of wheat, might you not have lowered them one-third?—No doubt of it.

And the people might have lived equally well?—I do not think that; though bread corn is lowered, other things are not in the same proportion.

Is not the average produce of the county of Norfolk, about twenty bushels of wheat and twenty-eight of barley?—Yes; that is a full average.

How much per acre do you suppose is paid for labour?—One pound.

Martis, 13^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

William Hanning, Esq.

Called in; and Examined.

W. Hanning,
Esq.

(13 March.)

YOU reside at Ilminster, in Somersetshire?—I do.

You are a considerable practical farmer?—I have farmed, but I do not at present.

State to the Committee what was the amount of the fall in the price of land in the year 1816?—I have penned a few Observations respecting the state of my own farm, a considerable part of which I kept in hand a few years ago, thinking this might save time. My individual landed property is not a fair criterion to decide the question of general agricultural distress, because my estates in Somersetshire are in point of size and goodness perhaps the best suited for tenants with a corresponding capital, which mine happily possess, to make the best return after the necessary expenditure.

How is the local situation of them?—As to markets we have a very good internal market; we are about 132 miles from London, so that our oxen, and occasionally sheep, come to London, but butter goes round by water, generally speaking, being under the necessity of being salted; the character of my land is that of the best quality in the west of England, the arable and rich friable sandy loam, capable of being worked at little comparative expense, and capable of growing crops of every description, natural or artificial, and each good in quality and satisfactory as to quantity generally speaking; my best tenants acknowledge they can produce from land 40s. per acre more net rent than could be obtained from the vale or hill country farms; but with these advantages they state the impossibility of continuing to pay any proportionate rent, so declining are they in capital. I received at my last rent day, Christmas, but half of what was due at Michaelmas, of that, some paid more, some less, and this after a very considerable deduction of rent. Since the war small estates and poor lands in our neighbourhood must all sink, as the expense of maintaining the family, the expense of the horses to do half a plough's labour, and the little net proceeds, after paying the rates, taxes and wages, leave little or nothing for the landlord. I made no uniform scale of deduction, because no two estates I possess are precisely in the same situation as to ability to pay, but I reduced the payment from a knowledge which I possessed of the advantages and disadvantages of each estate, that is, their being more or less protected in the sales of their produce on the arable land; corn and

and wool are sufficiently protected, if the laws were accurately executed; my best estate is principally a grazing and dairy farm, and that was reduced in the year 1816 precisely one-third; the farm, together with the tythes of the whole parish, were then let together at 1,200*l.* per annum; I reduced the rent to 800*l.* per annum; hides, tallow and butter, the chief product, being lowered by nearly a free importation. It is in our country, and in Somersetshire generally, the constant practice for the tenant who rents a farm, to let a certain number of cows, ten, fifteen or twenty cows at a certain given sum per cow, the price of cows which were generally let to under tenants or dairymen being reduced from 14*l.* to 10*l.* which is the present price; I myself have let, when I farmed cows, at that price; and I understand, having asked the question ten days since of one of my principal tenants the price he let his cows for this year, he told me his contract was 10*l.* they let them generally from Candlemas to Candlemas. Beef would be sufficiently high, if the lower pieces or offal, as we commonly term it in the country, usually sold to little tradesmen or farmers, could be got rid of, but they are reduced to a scale of living little better than the labourers used to enjoy, and the labourers are now reduced to the necessity of living in a great degree on potatoes; all things naturally protected, as fresh meat, fresh butter and potatoes, generally speaking, have a remunerating price in Buckinghamshire and round within the district of London; in the great markets butter is at a remunerating price, from eighteen to twenty-pence a pound, but salt butter is generally at a much less price, but, generally speaking, I apprehend that the fresh butter, in large towns, is much higher; at Bath, the other day, I know it was considerably more than one-third higher than it was in the countries where it is manufactured and salted, and sent in, in competition with the Dutch butter; all articles capable of being imported, are cut down in proportion as such goods can be imported, and thus foreign nations are enriched at our expence. My aggregate deduction of rent and advantages given to the tenants, beyond what their agreements stipulated, exceeded upon the whole twenty per cent; the extremes of such deductions varied according to the circumstances of their situations, from ten to 33 per cent; but from necessity, I have now altered my plan of relieving them, seeing that the tenants, I believe from poverty only, do not use the accustomed capital in manures and good husbandry; I have fixed to make such deduction by a new mode, that is, by paying the bill of all manure and expences of digging, &c. which I thought would assist the tenants and benefit the estate, as a mode of securing my estates from destruction, and to enable them to raise a crop to be sold at some price, good or bad. In the poorer lands in the north of Devon, where I have property, I received at Christmas, less than one-third of the rent due at Michaelmas, and have one instance of a necessary deduction of rent from 500*l.* to 300*l.*; this is the only instance where I have an arrear of two years rent, and I possess a doubt of that farmer's capability of going on, though he came upon the farm with 2,000*l.* and if a distress was now taken, he would not have 200*l.* left; his capital is gone. As to poors rates, they are lessened, but not to the extent of the diminution of the means of payment, as is also the case with wages. Mine, in Somersetshire, is particularly good land, and my tenants used to grow a considerable quantity of hemp, which is a clear proof of its being very good land, for it is only the best land which can grow hemp, but that cannot be continued at a certain loss long, only as an employment for the poor in the winter: they grow ten or fifteen acres of hemp, that employs the poor in scaling, and it is a very good preparation, generally speaking, for wheat; where there has been a good crop of hemp, there is, generally speaking, a good crop of wheat afterwards; it destroys the weed. A protection is required, equal to the difference between this and foreign nations, in the expense of growth.

From your extensive knowledge in those parts of the country with which you are acquainted, have you perceived, in the last two or three years, a deterioration in the state of cultivation?—It was completely with that view, seeing that my own tenants neglected to manure in the way they had, and to purchase lime in the quantities they had been accustomed to purchase, that I thought it better not to give back the deduction of rent any longer, but to pay the bill myself, having the assurance that my estate would receive its fair proportion of benefit; and certainly in the district round me, there is not the quantity of manure used which there used to be, for instance, lime.

Are you of opinion, that the farmers in general, in your knowledge, have incurred a great loss of capital?—I have no question of it; a friend and neighbour of mine, had occasion to newly arrange some estates, and new let them; two years since, on the death of his father, the tenants got upon the estate; some, I am sorry to say, partly

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partly upon a borrowed capital, as has been discovered since; if a distress was taken now (they cannot pay rent, and I believe they will not be able the next rent day), I am convinced those persons would be annihilated, inasmuch as they would have no capital left.

Has it fallen within your knowledge to say, whether the speculators or purchasers of English grain are now equal to what they used formerly to be?—I know nothing of them individually.

Can you speak as to the situation of the labourers in question. Has the decrease in the price of victuals placed them in a better situation with the reduction of wages than they were formerly?—I have asked my own labourers keeping a few, whether they are pleased and satisfied now that bread is so low as seven-pence a loaf, which it is in our neighbourhood at this moment; and they tell me uniformly, that they were better off when it was at a shilling, because they got more work generally in the country. They used to work task work, and got higher wages.

Has there been a change in their food within the two last years?—Unquestionably, I see the labourers being constantly moving about my own farms; I see them now almost wholly supplied with potatoes, breakfast and dinner, brought to them in the fields, and nothing but potatoes.

Were they in the habit in better times of consuming a certain quantity of animal food?—Some certain portion; for instance, bacon and cheese, which they do not eat now.

Has there been a decrease in their use of malt liquors?—In my neighbourhood it is principally cyder. As to malt liquor, I only state the information of a tenant or two of my own, who have ale-houses and inns, who say they do not sell so much as they used to sell; but I cannot vouch for that.

Has the pressure in point of fact decreased the consumption of cyder?—I really cannot say. We always give our labourers cyder as part of their wages, when there is any growth.

Are your rents higher now than they were in 1792?—Certainly.

In what proportion?—I cannot exactly say by my memory; but they are considerably improved since that certainly.

At what period were they highest?—Just before the conclusion of the war, before the ports were opened.

What is the term of the leases let in your part of the country?—We usually let our leases for seven, fourteen or twenty-one years; but at the expiration of the last seven years we mutually agree to do it all away, and they are continuing the estates, on my honour, there is no lease between us; there happened to be two or three cases of small things in the north of Devon, but not of my best estates.

Has the price of agricultural produce increased in as great a proportion since 1792 as the rise of the rent?—It did advance, but has now gone back; the price of bread now is very low indeed, and of course the estates must fall back in proportion.

The price of bread is now very little more than it was in 1792?—There is very little difference. I have a very excellent farm of 1,000 *l.* a year; I know that during the peace, between the American war and the late war, the average price, according to a statement the tenant showed me, of the seven years he worked the farm, was a trifle more than five shillings a bushel, or forty shillings a quarter; now it is only seven, or a trifle less than seven.

Are the expenses of managing a farm higher now than they were in 1792?—Certainly.

To what causes is that increase of expense to be attributed?—Every thing is dear for instance; wages are somewhat dearer, but all the implements of husbandry are dearer, and every thing the farmer has to purchase is dearer.

Are not the poor rates a great part of the increase of the expence?—The poor rates are increased very enormously since 1792.

On what principle is the relief to the poor given in Somersetshire; do they give it in proportion to the price of corn?—Generally speaking by a scale of bread. The magistrates of the division generally work by a scale of bread; as the price of bread advances or goes back, so does the relief increase or decrease.

At what price would corn be raised on your best farm, so as fairly to remunerate the farmer, if no rent were paid for it, if wages and taxes were to continue as they now are?—I cannot exactly say I consider that rents, taxes, tithes, and a variety of regular out-goings, are indirectly always paid by the landlord, though the tenant pays them; it would otherwise create an increase of rent. I recollect that in the year

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year 1792, an estate I have at present, the landlord paid the rates and taxes; but now they are generally thrown upon the tenant.

Supposing the tenant to pay all those charges, and to pay no rent whatever, at what price could he afford to grow corn upon your best arable farm?—I cannot say exactly; but the rent might be the criterion, as the average quantum grown per acre in England, may not equal twenty bushels an acre, on all arable lands, and the average price as the legislature has fixed as a fair remunerating price is ten shillings a bushel, or 4*l.* per quarter; every shilling that you sell your corn less than such per bushel, will make on twenty bushels, a pound, which is the rent of the arable lands of England.

If the tenant on your best farm paid you no rent whatever, would he now be a loser in selling the corn he raised at the present market price?—Certainly he would, upon the corn land.

What is the least price per acre that will remunerate the farmer for an acre of wheat, without reference to good or bad land?—I calculate 10*l.* per acre on the average.

Two quarters and a half upon the average?—Yes.

Does this answer apply exclusively to lands in your neighbourhood?—No; I speak of the country at large.

Did you mean to say by the answer you gave a little while ago, that if the price of corn were to remain as it now is, no rent could be paid for any land in your neighbourhood?—If the price of corn were to remain as it now is, and the taxes to remain, and the outgoings to remain as they are now, there would not be a shilling rent for the landlord.

Is not the high expense of carrying on a farm materially affected by the apathy of the farmer in respect of the prices he pays to different tradesmen for work done?—I think they are cutting them down as fast as they can from necessity; that is, they have not got the money to pay them, and they are making the best bargains they can.

Do you think they have cut down the blacksmith?—Yes, I think they have; and I recollect my tenant stating, that the thatchers have reduced in some measure.

Is the fall in the price of articles charged to the farmer proportioned to the price of his product?—No; certainly not.

Have you any considerable portions of your estate upon which you are not in the habit of growing wheat, in the common course of cultivation?—I have no land that I ever ploughed, but is capable of growing very good crops of wheat; I have land of course that is never ploughed at all, because it is meadow, and because it is fine rich grazing land; but the arable land I have, possesses the quality of growing wheat of the finest quality and in good quantity.

You have no quantity of land that comes under the description of light land?—No; I have in the north of Devon some land of very inferior character as compared with the Somersetshire land.

Is that black sand?—No, principally clay; it grows the wheat, but not in burthen equal to that we grow in Somersetshire.

Can you state what is the rate of the annual labour per acre on your arable land?—Not expecting to be examined at all when I came to town I did not bring up any document with me, and therefore cannot state that accurately.

In what parishes in the north of Devon does your property lie?—In Buckland, Brewer, and Parkham, near Bideford.

When were those farms let, from which you received only one-third last rent day?—That on which there was a deduction from 500*l.* to 300*l.* I think was let ten or twelve years ago; I think the lease was a fourteen years lease.

Have you let any farm in that district lately?—I have let one; I reduced the rent, and he was the only tenant who has run away, driving off the cattle.

Do you know that the use of lime in that district has very much decreased?—Very much.

Has the demand for labour decreased in your neighbourhood?—The fact is, that the people are almost out of work, the farmers have not capital to employ them; it is on that ground that I chose to relieve them by paying the bill of manure, and by paying the bill of labour for the manufacturing and working of the lime, and the hedging and ditching, and so on; I thought it would assist the poor rates by creating labour.

Has the population, within the last seven years, in your neighbourhood, increased?—I rather think it has; we have not taken a return lately.

As you are well acquainted with the operation of the poor rates, do they, in your opinion

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opinion, contribute to early marriages?—I am afraid they do; I have lately lessened the poor rates in the parish of Ilminster, where I live, by a friend and myself advancing a sum of money to the parish, and building what they call a workhouse; we had a house commonly called a workhouse, which was a place of idleness; we added to it a species of factory, so that every one should be compelled to earn their bread before they ate it, and made them work; the consequence of which was, that those who were in the house before, and were capable of work, have left the house; I then, as Lord of the manor, let them a small portion of land to supply the workhouse with labour for the poor, and to supply them with garden stuff and potatoes, and to keep the men otherwise out of labour at work; I found great relief from that, because there was always work, and they always raised their own provisions, and I think if that was done, generally speaking, in many parishes where there is a spot of uncultivated land, and compelling them to earn their own bread before they ate it, benefit would accrue to the parishes; there is no question that there is more complaint at the vestry of want of labour than there used to be.

At what period after their marriages do labourers generally resort to the parish for relief?—The moment they have children, or several children, they run to the parish, and ask for maintenance for themselves and their children.

Is it not generally looked upon by labourers that the parish will relieve them after their families have amounted to such a size?—That is generally the case; they understand it, and almost fancy they have a legal right to it; in the division in which I act, we have a population of from 25 to 30,000 inhabitants, and of course we have, at every justice meeting, a great number of people coming to ask for relief, as a compulsory relief from the overseers.

Is there any regular scale of relief adopted by the magistrates?—We give a scale to the overseers that they may not come to us unnecessarily, that is, according to the price of bread, that so they should relieve them in case of necessity; for instance, if a man has two or three children, or a widow has those children, she must have a maintenance, and we say you must relieve them according to that scale at least.

Is your scale thus, that for each individual of the family, they receive what is the market price of a certain portion of bread?—Yes; proportionate to the age of the child; for instance, a child under nine years of age has a lesser sum than one of fifteen years of age, and so a man.

Is that without reference to the ability of the labourer to gain money for himself?—Of course; the way it was originally made up was taking into consideration what he earned; for instance, if he earned ten shillings, and that was inadequate to maintain himself and six, or any given number of children, the difference between his earnings and that sum laid down should be paid.

Is there, according to that system, any incitement to the labourer to exert himself?—Yes; because if he does labour he can earn more; it is an existence, but he can earn a great deal more by labour, and therefore can keep himself better than by coming on the parish.

You say your poor rates are reduced in consequence of the regulations you have made, in what proportion are the poor rates in other parishes adjoining?—I do not think our poor rates at this moment are increasing in the neighbourhood; but at this period of the year, there is rather more than the accustomed call on the vestry, and for this reason, that prior to Christmas, labour was easily acquired; there was the wheat sowing, the digging of potatoes, the taking up of crops, and the collection of apples, and a variety of things, which are now done away with, and consequently the people are out of work.

How are the rates now, compared with the year 1814?—I really cannot say, not being furnished with that information.

If a farmer employed ten thousand pounds on his farm, and was protected from foreign importation during the period of his lease, and consequently obtained a remunerating price for his corn, would it not be in his power to withdraw his capital from the land without loss, although a law should now pass that the ports should be opened for a free trade in corn, after the expiration of his lease?—I perhaps do not comprehend the question; but I should say, that if there was a long lease, and that at a very low rent, possibly he may do something; but if the rent was any thing like a fair average value, he could not do it.

What can that have to do with the rent which he pays; the question refers to his withdrawing his capital from his land at the expiration of his lease; supposing that I was to engage in the business of a farmer, and were to stock my farm at the expense of 10,000 *l.* paying a rent for that farm for fourteen years, would it not be in my power

power to realize my 10,000 *l.* in money, at the expiration of that fourteen years, if I were disposed so to do?—If there have been fourteen years of fair remunerating prices, a man ought to have realized money enough to have made the stock of the farm, and then upon the expiration of the lease, whether he sold it well or not, so must he be richer than when he began.

Supposing the ports to be freely opened, that there was no impediment to foreign corn coming in, do you believe that there would be any man found in the kingdom, who would be willing to buy his stock?—I take for granted every landlord and every tenant is annihilated at once; that stock which cost him 10,000 *l.* would sink to much less.

Must not the possibility of the farmer recovering his stock, at the expiration of his term, depend upon the price which agricultural produce bears at that time?—He must have made some money during the fourteen years of his lease, and whatever the average price of those goods may be, whether of one species of stock or of another, the market price of that day must be the price at which the whole will be sold, at the expiration of that time.

If the price was low, he would not get the 10,000 *l.* if it was high he would get more?—Yes, I am convinced that if I were to insist upon my rent, and take the legal steps for recovery of that rent, I should destroy my tenants now.

Are you sufficiently aware of the proportion that the price of foreign corn generally bears to British corn, to enable you to speak with accuracy to it?—I am not.

Are the Committee to understand that the friend to whom you have referred, acted principally under your advice in letting his farm last year?—He came to me as a friend, and knowing I had lived in the country all my life, and some of his land being of the same character as my own, he asked me whether I could advise him.

What is the general character of his land?—It has two distinct characters; some as good as any, and some very inferior; he has a ridge of hill; that below the hill is very good, that on the hill is thin poor land.

What should you say is the average produce of his good land; the quantum of wheat per acre?—I should say between twenty-five and thirty bushels; I have grown more than forty bushels an acre on a whole farm together, but only once in my life time.

What should you say is the average produce of his inferior land?—Not above twenty bushels.

What is the species of corn usually grown upon his light land?—They grow barley and oats; some of the fields grow wheat.

In what proportion were the rents upon your friend's estate raised, compared with what they were at the period of his father's decease, and when he adopted your advice?—His father had not let those farms, he kept an immense tract of land in his own occupation.

If you had a farm of a hundred acres, two-thirds arable and one-third grass to let, what proportion of capital would you say was sufficient for the tenant to possess, so as to enter upon that with tolerable security?—I do not consider a farm of a hundred acres, generally speaking, an eligible sized farm.

Take any sized farm you will, what capital do you think a tenant ought to possess to whom it is let; what proportion ought the capital to bear to the land he is entering on?—Before the fall of prices on cattle, he ought to have had 10 *l.* per acre, that is to say, a tenant on two hundred acres ought to be worth 2,000 *l.* 1,000 *l.* for every hundred acres, or he cannot go on with his farm to advantage, there is such a fluctuation now, one cannot say what cattle can be purchased at; a cow that used to cost 20 *l.* may be purchased now for ten or twelve.

Does it require a man of much larger capital to enter on an arable than a grass farm?—Certainly, it depends upon the character of the farm considerably.

To what causes generally, whether the want of protecting duties or otherwise, do you attribute the low price of agricultural produce particularly referring to grain?—Generally speaking, the opening of the ports; but that is not the case immediately now. It is nearly two years, I think, since the ports were opened, but there is a vast poverty in the country, and men are induced to sell immediately after the harvest at very low prices; and if by a strange change in the markets things were to get up to what we call a remunerating price, those poor men would have ruined themselves by selling at half the price it cost them.

You have stated, that an acre of wheat should produce 10 *l.* to remunerate the farmer; can you state an opinion what an acre of oats should produce?—No; I grow none on my own land.

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What is your course of husbandry?—My tenants have, generally speaking, had a succession of crops, turnips, barley, some intermediate crops of vetches or clover, wheat and wheat: we grow flax on some of the land, and after that grow turnips as a second crop.

Have the goodness to state to the Committee the money value of each sort of crop you grow to remunerate the farmer?—The turnips, which is the first, we never value as to the acre, because we consume them all by sheep; I cannot state their value. The next is barley.

What should be the value of an acre of barley?—6*l.* I apprehend. The clover, and so on, is consumed on the land by the sheep.

You cannot affix a money value to the other crops?—I cannot, never having sold any myself; but there is a considerable return on the sheep.

What do you conceive to be the crop of last year; was it an average or a bad crop?—On my individual estates in Somertshire we had a fair crop; but I have some lands in Devonshire, where it was considerably low; there was a mildew in Devonshire.

Was the mildew general in Devonshire last year?—No; it only affected our sandy loams; it did not affect the hills.

Have the Acts which passed two years ago, for the amendment of the poor laws, had any effect in your neighbourhood?—I do not think they have operated in the most trifling degree in our neighbourhood.

Have select vestries been established in your county, under that Act?—No, not in my neighbourhood.

You state that the magistrates have adopted a scale by which they order relief to individuals; have they ever taken into their consideration that clause of one of those Acts which enables them to consider the character of the individual at the time of the relief?—I do not know that the Act has operated at all with us.

Do you generally pay your labourers by the day or by the week?—They work all they can by the piece; but there are a great number who work always by the day, for instance the carter, and so on.

In what proportion is the price of day labour reduced from what it was in 1814?—About a shilling or eighteen-pence per day.

What is the price of day labour now?—It is about eight shillings per week and liquor, that is cyder. It was about nine shillings, generally speaking, not exceeding ten shillings; but always liquor.

Is the Committee to understand there is a difference of only one shilling per week in your day labour?—It certainly does not exceed two shillings; the task work varies with the times.

Is the task work reduced?—Upon the same scale as the day work.

You say you ascribe the present distressed state of agriculture to a want of sufficient protection; what, in your opinion, would afford a sufficient protection to the farmer?—If you take wheat as the criterion, I say 10*s.* or 4*l.* was a sufficient protection.

What measure would you recommend to enable the farmer to be pretty certain of obtaining 80*s.* per quarter for his wheat?—A graduated scale of protecting duty, commencing at ten, the minimum, and going to a certain height, say fifteen, when the ports may be thrown open; wheat and other things in proportion.

What should be the price here when you laid a duty of ten shillings on the importation of wheat?—My idea was beginning high, at any thing above ten shillings a bushel, and lowering that duty progressively till it came to the point at which the ports should be thrown open, say 15*s.*

Do you ascribe any part of the present distress to the altered value of the currency?—There is less circulating medium in the country than there was; but that is one of those things on which I am not competent to speak; when there was more paper or money, things were better certainly.

Are you aware of the many evils that might arise from the intricate variations of a graduated scale?—I see some of the difficulties of ascertaining the selling prices, so as to get the average; there are some things of which there are averages now, for instance corn, whether it might be better done I will not say; but there are other things equally injurious to the agriculturists where there is no species of protection at all; I think if the protection was well done, 10*s.* is sufficiently high for wheat; and to the inferior wools, perhaps sixpence is enough on the coarse wools, I think not on the finest, but on the coarse wools I think sixpence is a sufficient protection.

Will not the increased consumption of potatoes you have mentioned, account in a great

great measure for the reduced price of wheat?—The lower orders from necessity eat less wheat.

W. Hanning,
Esq.

Of course then a less consumption of wheat will produce a depreciation?—I think their poverty drives them to eat a worse food.

(13 March.)

Suppose there were an absolute prohibition against the importation of grain into this country, do you think the English wheat would then bear the price of 80 s.?—Generally speaking, we could grow wheat enough for our own consumption.

Do you think the rise would bear 80 s. a quarter?—Not if all other things were sold at inferior prices, because the people would be so poor.

You are aware that this question, of the importation of foreign corn, as balanced against British corn, is perhaps one of the most momentous now before the public?—I do not feel competent to speak to it.

Do you consider an abundant harvest generally favourable or unfavourable to the farmer?—Generally speaking favourable.

Would the fall of price be more injurious to him than the increase of quantity?—A full crop certainly does remunerate in general.

Is it for the interest of the farmer that the price of corn should be low, or that it should be high, supposing him not fettered by any engagement with his landlord, and about to take a lease of a farm?—A fair remunerating price, nothing more.

Do farming servants in your neighbourhood live in the farm houses?—Not so much as they do in Devonshire.

Did they formerly do so?—I think I recollect its being done more than it is at present.

When did that practice cease?—I am sure I cannot state; I think I recollect it when I was a child; they do it in Devonshire now a good deal.

Do you mean that they are beginning it again there?—No; they have always done it there.

Do you know whether they make a distinction between married and unmarried servants in that respect?—I have never known any married servants kept in the houses.

Does the question of servants obtaining settlements, enter much into the consideration of the farmers in hiring in your neighbourhood?—I do not think it does.

They do not make their contract for less than a year?—No; the farmers, generally speaking, are careful about letting to persons, small tenants, so as to create a settlement, of 10 l. a year.

Would the free export of wool, in your opinion, be an advantage to the farmer?—I cannot say, I have not turned that in my mind.

John Ellman, Esq. Called in; and Examined.

John Ellman,
Esq.

(13 March.)

WHERE do you reside?—In the parish of Glynde, near Lewes, Sussex.

You are an occupier of a very considerable farm?—I am.

To what extent?—I have two farms, of the extent of about 1,400 acres.

Of what do they consist?—One of them consists of about 350 acres of down land, I think, about 440 of arable, and 484 of meadow and pasture.

How many years have you occupied this farm?—I have occupied the greater part of it on my own account for about five-and-forty years.

What has the rent of this farm increased from the year 1792?—The farm was let upon lease for twenty-one years, at Michaelmas 1790, which ended in 1811, at the time that agricultural produce was selling higher than at any other period I recollect; it was increased, in 1811, from 680 l. per annum to 1,200 l.

When was the first abatement in rent?—The first abatement, to the best of my recollection, was in 1815, three years after I took a fresh lease.

To what amount was that?—200 l. a year, reducing it to 1,000 l. the rent I now pay.

Has any abatement taken place since that?—None upon the farm I occupy.

Have the farmers in your neighbourhood, had any abatement within the last two years?—If the Committee will permit me, acting as agent for a considerable land owner, over a pretty considerable estate in the county of Sussex, I can speak to that specifically.

What abatement has been made upon the lands of the persons within your knowledge?—About four or five years ago, the abatements were from twenty to twenty-five per cent.

John Ellman,
Esq.

(13 March.)

Have any abatements taken place since that?—An abatement the present year, in one or two instances, at the rate of thirty-three per cent.

The first was twenty per cent?—Yes.

The second abatement thirty-three per cent?—Not upon the original amount; this was upon a farm on which no abatement had been made in 1814 or 1815, but the farms were taken on lease, and no abatement was made till now; that was reducing the farms one-third.

What was the increase of rent upon the new letting?—Speaking to 1811, the increase upon the average of the estates I am concerned for, was full one-third.

The decrease has been pretty nearly equal to what was the increase upon the former letting?—It is brought very nearly to the former letting.

What term of years do you give in the county of Sussex?—The leases have varied considerably lately in the terms; some of them have been for four, five, six, seven and eight, and I do not know of any beyond twelve years.

What was the period of the lease that ended in 1811?—Twenty-one years; granted in 1790; all the leases of the estates I am concerned for, were granted at the same time.

What proportion does agricultural produce now bear to what it was in 1790?—I really am not competent to speak to that; I do not recollect the proportion, to speak off hand.

Do the present prices at which corn is selling, remunerate the farmer for the expense of tillage, poors rates, and rent?—I am certain they do not, in our neighbourhood, in the county of Sussex.

Do you believe that the farmer, if there were no rent, could grow the corn at the price at which it is now selling?—I am persuaded that many farmers on the estate I am concerned for, have not paid a halfpenny rent out of their produce the last year; and I am confident, that without paying rent, they are worse men than they were twelve months ago last Michaelmas.

From your knowledge of the county of Sussex, do you believe that to be pretty generally the state of the case?—I believe it to be pretty generally upon the smaller farms off the Downs; I do not say it is exactly so upon the Downs, where they are not at so great an expense in the cultivation of lands, and keep more stock; but speaking of all the arable lands, I believe it is the case in the county of Sussex.

Has there not been a great depreciation in their stock, sheep and cattle?—Very considerable.

What will it amount to in wool; what is the present selling price of Southdown wool?—About fifteen pence a pound.

What used to be the selling price?—I have with me the price for the last twenty years: I find the average of the ten years ending 1810, to be by my own account of sale, 1*s.* 11½*d.* per pound; according to another account I have got from Mr. Nottidge, a large wool buyer in town, he states it to be two shillings and three farthings a pound; in the next ten years, mine is 1*s.* 10½*d.* and his is exactly 2*s.* With reference to the difference of price between myself and Mr. Nottidge, I would state, that I did not sell in 1818, when the wool was at the highest; I sold the following year at a reduced price.

You are a breeder of Southdown tups?—I am.

Have you found that this depreciation of wool has hurt the trade in tups?—Very considerably; I attribute it to a depreciation in the value of short wools. I let my tups last year at less than half the price I did twenty years ago, and I think I may say ten years ago.

In the same two periods, can you state the value of the carcase of sheep?—I do not know that I can with perfect correctness; in speaking to the best of my recollection, I should think a Southdown sheep in the year 1810, was selling at about 40*s.*

What was their average weight?—They were breeding ewes; we do not sell wethers, when they come up to four years' old, we sell off the ewes.

What is the price of draft ewes at present?—I should think at present about six or seven and twenty shillings. I think there is full that depreciation in price.

Do you find the same facility in selling your drafts now, you did ten years ago?—Certainly not; and I have reduced the price of my own, full 50 per cent to what it was ten years ago. I consider that the price I had ten years ago was a fancy price; the sheep I sold then at four guineas, I am selling now at 40*s.* each.

Can you speak to what was the value of cattle at that period?—I should think the lean and fat stock both have reduced in price; within the period of ten years not less than 30 per cent. in our county.

Do

Do you believe that at the present rates of corn, the farmer is remunerated in the expense of tillage, putting all rent out of the question?—In some particular farms of good light tillage land, they probably may be remunerated at the present prices without paying any rent; but upon heavy tillage land, I am perfectly confident, that at the present prices of agricultural produce, it is totally impossible for the tenants to pay any rent at all, unless they pay it out of the capital.

Within your knowledge, confining yourself to the county of Sussex, do you believe that the capital of the farmer has decreased?—I can speak positively to my own capital being very considerably decreased; and I have every reason to believe it is so generally through the county.

From your long experience, are you of opinion that the agriculture of the country has advanced or deteriorated within the last three years?—I conceive it to be very considerably deteriorated.

Has there been any, and what change in the system of tillage?—Many farmers have been under the necessity of altering their system of tillage considerably, by reason of want of capital, within these three years; and therefore they have been more frugal and economical than they would have been if they had money in their pockets to do as they did formerly.

Has that change operated to decrease the quantity of green crop?—I think it has, both of green crops and corn crops.

Has the farmer been driven to adopt fallows as a cheaper expedient than tillage?—That I cannot speak to, whether they have or have not.

What has been your observation as to the purchasing of adventitious sources of manure; has this lessened or increased?—Very considerably lessened.

What are the general manures that are purchased to aid the agriculture of Sussex?—Chalk is the general article of manure purchased to go into the interior of the county; that is purchased in the neighbourhood in which I reside.

Is that burnt?—Yes; it is burnt into lime.

Has the use of lime considerably decreased?—Very considerably.

Has not the quantity of grain produced upon farms decreased in proportion as the tillage has been less perfect?—I have no doubt it has.

If these unfortunate times should continue, what must be the case with respect to the farmer and his productions?—My opinion is, that those who commenced farming within the last ten years with little capital, must all give up their farms.

Where the farmer is enabled to go on, will it not be with a decreased production?—Certainly, under the present prices.

You have a very considerable acquaintance with the different counties in England?—I have some knowledge of many counties in England.

In your belief, has the production of grain, taking it on your general knowledge of the country, increased or decreased within the last three years?—I should consider it considerably decreased within the last three years.

Do you consider that the production per acre throughout the country in general, has lessened or increased from what it was some years ago?—I believe there are as many acres under cultivation now as there were three years ago; but that the produce per acre is very deficient, in consequence of the want of proper tillage and manure of that land.

In the present general distress, must it not operate to decrease the growth of green crop?—I think so; it is my opinion that it will.

Green crop requires a greater capital and more labour?—I think it requires an equal capital, if not greater than the production of corn.

To carry on the system of green crops would require a greater capital of the farmer?—Most undoubtedly; where green crops are substituted for a fallow, which they will be where there is capital to enable the farmer to raise those green crops, the farmer will generally raise a much better produce after a green crop than he will after a fallow.

Is not the effect of growing green crops to increase both the quantity and quality of manure?—Most undoubtedly; and that very considerably.

Then the result must be, of a continuance of the present distress of the farmer, most considerably to reduce the production of all produce?—That is my firm opinion and belief.

Can you speak as to the increase or decrease of the poors rates within the last three years?—I cannot speak as to the increase or decrease, excepting in the parish where I happen to reside, I have an account of the poors rates for the last thirty years, striking the average every ten years; I occupy rather more than four-fifths of the whole parish.

John Ellman,
Esq.

(13 March.)

[The witness delivered in the account, which was read, as follows:]

“ GLYNDE Poors Disbursements, including County Rate.

	£.	s.	d.
1791 - -	96.	3.	0 $\frac{3}{4}$.
1792 - -	100.	15.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1793 - -	83.	11.	10.
1794 - -	130.	1.	8 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1795 - -	110.	12.	5 $\frac{3}{4}$.
1796 - -	211.	9.	7.
1797 - -	187.	2.	9.
1798 - -	131.	13.	0.
1799 - -	147.	17.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1800 - -	219.	1.	3.

Cost of labour, taking the average of ten years,

	per day.	Mowing grass.	Reaping.	Threshing wheat.
Average of } 10 years	- 141. 16. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.	- 1 s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.	- 2 s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	- 9 s. 7 d. - 2 s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

1801 - -	401.	9.	4.
1802 - -	443.	7.	6 $\frac{1}{4}$.
1803 - -	331.	16.	8 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1804 - -	251.	6.	8.
1805 - -	327.	11.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1806 - -	278.	14.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1807 - -	309.	9.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1808 - -	264.	12.	2.
1809 - -	287.	5.	9.
1810 - -	392.	16.	1.

	per day.	Mowing.	Reaping.	Threshing.
Average of } 10 years.	- 328. 5. 3.	- 2 s. 2 d.	- 3 s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	- 14 s. - 3 s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

1811 - -	362.	9.	1.
1812 - -	410.	0.	7 $\frac{1}{4}$.
1813 - -	514.	18.	1.
1814 - -	382.	16.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1815 - -	328.	13.	0 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1816 - -	305.	4.	1.
1817 - -	467.	—	8 $\frac{1}{4}$.
1818 - -	428.	1.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1819 - -	407.	9.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1820 - -	420.	16.	5.

	per day.	Mowing.	Reaping.	Threshing.
Average of } 10 years.	- 402. 15. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.	- 2 s. 2 d.	- 3 s. 9 d.	- 14 s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 s. 8 d.

What is the population of your parish?—It is about two hundred and twenty.

Has it increased or decreased during the period to which your account refers?—To the best of my recollection, there has been no increase within the last ten years.

As far as you have observed, have the farmers increased or diminished the quantity of labour on their farms?—The farmers, generally, have decreased the quantity of labour.

What are the wages you now pay?—Knowing, in some parishes, that the increase of the poors rates may be caused by the low price paid for labour, I took out the account for the same period, of the prices I pay to the different labourers, and the Committee will see, that in the parish of Glynde, the price of labour has not diminished at all, but has increased during that period; it has not increased within the last five years; but the rate of wages generally, in the county, has decreased within that time.

[The

[The witness delivered in the account, which was read, as follows:]

PRICES of Labour in Glynde Farm, from

(13 March.)

		Per Day.			Mowing.			Reaping.			Threshing Wheat.	
		s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
1788	- - -	1.	6.	- -	2.	6.	- -	8.	0.	- -	2.	4.
1789	- - -	same		- -	same		- -	same		- -	same	
1790	- - -	same		- -	same		- -	10.	0.	- -	2.	8.
1791	- - -	1.	6.	- -	2.	2.	- -	8.	6.	- -	2.	8.
1792	- - -	1.	6.	- -	2.	2.	- -	8.	0.	- -	2.	8.
1793	- - -	1.	6.	- -	2.	2.	- -	9.	0.	- -	2.	8.
1794	- - -	1.	6.	- -	2.	2.	- -	9.	0.	- -	2.	8.
1795	- - -	1.	8.	- -	2.	9.	- -	9.	6.	- -	3.	0.
1796	- - -	2.	0.	- -	2.	9.	- -	9.	6.	- -	3.	4.
1797	- - -	2.	0.	- -	3.	0.	- -	11.	0.	- -	3.	4.
1798	- - -	2.	0.	- -	2.	9.	- -	8.	6.	- -	2.	8.
1799	- - -	2.	0.	- -	2.	9.	- -	11.	0.	- -	3.	0.
1800	- - -	2.	0.	- -	3.	6.	- -	12.	0.	- -	3.	8.
Average of 10 years	-	1.	9 $\frac{3}{4}$.	-	2.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$.	-	9.	7.	-	2.	11 $\frac{3}{4}$.
1801	{ $\frac{2}{4}$.	2.	3.	- -	3.	6.	- -	16.	0.	- -	4.	0.
1802	- - -	2.	3.	- -	3.	6.	- -	13.	0.	- -	4.	0.
1803	- - -	2.	3.	- -	3.	6.	- -	14.	0.	- -	3.	4.
1804	- - -	2.	0.	- -	3.	6.	- -	13.	0.	- -	4.	0.
1805	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	14.	0.	- -	3.	6.
1806	- - -	2.	2.	- -	4.	0.	- -	12.	0.	- -	3.	4.
1807	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	14.	0.	- -	3.	6.
1808	{ $\frac{2}{4}$.	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	15.	0.	- -	4.	0.
1809	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	15.	0.	- -	5.	0.
1810	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	14.	0.	- -	5.	0.
Average of 10 years	-	2.	2.	- -	3.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$.	-	14.	0.	- -	3.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
1811	{ $\frac{2}{4}$.	2.	2.	- -	4.	0.	- -	13.	0.	- -	5.	4.
1812	- - -	2.	2.	- -	4.	0.	- -	16.	0.	- -	4.	8.
1813	- - -	2.	2.	- -	4.	0.	- -	16.	0.	- -	4.	6.
1814	- - -	2.	2.	- -	4.	0.	- -	16.	0.	- -	4.	6.
1815	- - -	2.	2.	- -	4.	0.	- -	13.	0.	- -	4.	4.
1816	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	13.	0.	- -	5.	0.
1817	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	11.	0.	- -	4.	0.
1818	{ $\frac{2}{6}$.	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	12.	0.	- -	4.	0.
1819	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	17.	0.	- -	7.	0.
1820	- - -	2.	2.	- -	3.	6.	- -	15.	0.	- -	3.	6.
Average of 10 years	-	2.	2.	- -	3.	9.	- -	14.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$.	-	4.	8.

What were the wages five years ago?—2 s. per day in winter, and 2 s. 4d. in summer.

What are they now?—They are now, in some parishes, 1 s. 9d. per day in the winter; they reduced them last Michaelmas; therefore I cannot say what they will be in the summer.

From your observation among the working classes, is their situation better or worse, from the reduction in the price of provisions?—I consider the labourers employed in agriculture, to be considerably worse off than they were five or ten years ago.

Has that operated at all to change their mode of living?—I cannot speak to that; I have no knowledge that it has in our parish.

Has the cultivation of potatoes increased or decreased within the last few years?—I think it has increased considerably, as most farmers allot to their men as much land as they can cultivate for potatoes, which they did not do fifteen years ago; some of them

John Ellman,
Esq.

(13. March.)

them have now half an acre or an acre; they were formerly grown only in gardens.

Has the use of animal food decreased?—I think not; our labourers eat a great deal of animal food, and have done ever since I can recollect; there are very few who do not eat meat every day.

Has there been any alteration in the giving ale to the workmen?—Yes; I know some instances where they used to find all the men beer, but now pay them so much a week in lieu of beer.

Do the labourers usually keep pigs?—I think they do, more now than they did ten or twelve years ago.

At what period was the system changed, by giving up the supply of beer to the men?—It was given up, very much, twenty years ago.

What was the allowance given in lieu of beer?—I know some farmers pay in lieu of beer two shillings per week, others eighteen pence.

Had the tax on malt any operation in lessening the consumption of beer by the labouring classes?—I am confident it has in our parish.

Do the prices in the London markets materially operate on your markets, in Sussex?—I think very materially indeed; I believe I may state with confidence, that as the information goes very quickly from the London market, into all parts of the country, the Lewes market is now held on the Tuesday, if there happens to be an advance of one shilling per quarter in the London market, it has the effect to raise the price in the Lewes market; and vice versa, if there is a reduction of one shilling, it reduces the price two shillings in the Lewes market; if the farmers see that there is a reduction in the London market, they are all desirous of selling and vice versa.

Have you observed any alteration within the last two or three years in the dealers or jobbers of grain, purchasing less than they used to do?—They purchase considerably less for storing up; as to weekly consumption they purchase much the same, but they do not purchase the quantity for store which they used to do, and to that I attribute the heaviness of the markets in the country.

Do you believe, that the large importation of grain now resting in the country, has any operation in deterring persons from speculating in grain of home growth?—I do not know what, except this, can operate to prevent their speculating in grain, at the reduced prices at which we are selling in the country.

Has the importation of grain under bond an effect on the London markets?—I believe it has, since the ports have been shut, had a very considerable effect on the London markets.

If that is the case, do you believe that so large a quantity of grain as is now in bond ready to be poured on the market, supposing the ports to be opened, to be a cause at all operating in deterring the speculating in English grain?—I believe it does so; and probably some of the buyers may be holders of this very grain, they may have laid out their money in the purchase of foreign grain under bond.

Do you believe, that the best quality of land in the kingdom would be able to compete with foreign grain if it could come freely to market?—There is one way in which I think it could, that is, for the farmers of this country to be relieved from taxation and tithe; and then I think, we could compete very fairly with the foreigners.

Do you mean, that if all taxes, all poors rates and tithes were taken off we might compete?—Yes, I should have no hesitation in saying, we could then compete with them on equal terms.

Do you think there is a possibility while these remain, of the best grounds being cultivated with a view of meeting the foreign farmer?—I think it impossible that it could be.

Explain what you mean by taxes?—Taxes which fall upon the farmer; the malt tax is a very oppressive tax on the farmer; all other government taxes; I do not speak of the assessed taxes only, but on every article the farmer consumes.

From your knowledge, do you believe, that the second quality of lands could be cultivated rent free and labour free, to meet a free importation of grain?—I have no hesitation in saying they could not. I mean, if the farmer and those employed with him on the farm, were to pay the taxes. I was going to state, when I speak of taxes, I include the leather tax as one that is a considerable tax on the farmer, for the leather he uses with his draught horses; and with regard to his labourers, which is a tax that bears on the farmer, though paid in the first instance by the labourer; our labourers gave from four to seven shillings for a pair of shoes, and seven or eight shillings a pair for half boots; they are now giving eight or ten shillings a pair for shoes, and fourteen, fifteen and sixteen shillings a pair for half boots.

Do

(13 March.)

Do you know at what rate foreign grain could come into this market?—I have turned my thoughts a good deal to that, and have made a great many calculations upon it; but I have not them with me.

Do you suppose grain could be grown on the second quality of lands in the kingdom, at the rate of 32 shillings a quarter?—Certainly not.

What do you believe would be a remunerating price upon the first quality, and upon the second quality, and upon the third quality of lands in the kingdom?—To divide the price according to the quality of lands, would be rather a difficult thing, without a good deal of calculation.

What would be the product of an acre of land of the best quality?—On an average four quarters per acre, or thirty-two bushels on the best; on the second, about twenty-four; and the third, not more than sixteen.

Jovis, 15^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

John Ellman, Esq.

Again called in; and further Examined.

STATE what you conceive would be the smallest cost at which wheat could be produced per acre, upon the first, second and third class of soils, independently of rent?—I have been making a calculation this morning upon the middling classes; but I have not taken the other two, which I will, with the permission of the Committee, deliver in on a future day; I have taken a statement for eight years, of the middling quality, worth about 1*l.* an acre, which I calculate would produce three quarters, or twenty-four bushels, per acre, on an average, taking bad and good years together; I have found, in carrying out the amount of expenses and produce, if wheat sold for less than 3*l.* per quarter, there was no rent remaining for the landlord.

John Ellman,
Esq.

(15 March.)

State what is the proportion of the cost of manual labour?—I should estimate manual labour at somewhere about from two shillings and sixpence to three shillings per bushel, in the production of wheat.

What would the horse labour cost?—The horse labour would be about equal to the manual labour; I should estimate horse labour at two shillings and sixpence, and about the same for the manual labour.

How do you estimate the value of manure?—I have estimated the value of manure at 3*s.* per cart load; our customary carts, which contain about twenty-eight bushels.

What is the weight?—I think it would be nearly a ton weight, of rotten dung; of rough dung, not more than fourteen or fifteen hundred weight.

What do you estimate the expenses of reaping and stacking?—I estimate the expense of reaping at 12*s.* per acre; cutting and shocking, the carting to barns, and manual labour, I estimate at 8*s.* per acre.

What do you reckon the threshing?—Four shillings per quarter.

When you speak of the expense of threshing, you speak of doing it by manual labour?—Yes.

What do you pay your regular men per week?—I pay 14*s.* a week to those that are constantly by the day through the year, allowing them a guinea additional in the month of harvest.

What is the price of common labour?—About 1*s.* 9*d.* per day, but not more than fourteen or fifteen pence is given by some of my neighbours.

For what is that labour?—The common labour upon the farm; such as hedging and ditching, and such sort of labour; carting manure, or draining, or other labour where they are working by the day.

Supposing a universally good harvest to take place over all the kingdom, would the increased quantity of the corn the farmer would obtain remunerate him for the

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decrease in price?—It is impossible to answer that question to the satisfaction of the Committee or myself, but I should suppose, from the experience of the present year, that it would not; I should expect that the price would be lower if there was an abundant crop the present year.

Supposing thirty millions of bushels of grain were imported during the opening of the ports which closed on the 15th of February 1819, what would be the amount of labour taken out of our own market in consequence of that quantity of grain imported?—It would amount to upwards of four millions; I do not speak of four millions as manual labour only, I include the horse labour; and I should think, if the manual labour, as I stated before, was from two shillings to two shillings and sixpence a bushel, the manual labour only on wheat would amount to upwards of two millions taken out of the country by the opening of the ports, and the corn brought in during the time they remained open.

Supposing this statement to be true, that there were thirty millions introduced during that period, what influence do you attribute this to have produced on the employment or non-employment of our own labourers for the last two years?—I believe that it has tended to deprive many labouring men of labour upon the farms, or in other words, to deprive the farmer of the means of paying those labourers, and consequently, he would not employ them; I can speak of the parish of Glynde, having nearly the whole of the parish; I employ all the labourers, as I otherwise must pay them out of the poor's rates.

Have the goodness to state to the Committee, what in your opinion will be the remedy for that evil?—So far as my own knowledge goes, I think that nothing is so likely to remedy the evil as a permanent fixed duty to the amount of 35 s. or 40 s. per quarter on import, which should be somewhat equal to the difference between the expense of raising grain in Great Britain and on the Continent.

At the present rates of tithes, taxes and prices, would you recommend a son of your's to take a farm?—I certainly should not.

What is your idea of a fixed duty; do you mean so high as to be of a prohibitory nature?—By no means; when the prices of grain rise to be oppressive on the consumer; I mean if the price of grain should rise even to 80 s. per quarter, that any fixed permanent duty the Legislature might think fit to annex would not stop the importation of foreign grain into this country, when the price had risen to 80 s. it appears to me that a fixed permanent duty would have this operation when the price of wheat in this country was 60 s. per quarter, that foreign wheat would not be imported to pay a duty of 35 s. or 40 s.; but when it rose to 75 s. per quarter, that a duty even of 40 s. would be paid by the importers, and they would get a very good profit for importing it.

Do you mean to alter the law as to the importation price of grain?—If it was in my power, I should alter that law; for I do consider that law no protection whatever to the British farmer.

In what respect then would you alter that law?—In the way I propose, by leaving the ports open at all times, by paying a fixed permanent duty on the import.

Do you think, from the information you have obtained as to the price at which grain could be grown on the Continent, a duty of forty shillings would in any measure protect the British farmer?—It is my opinion, that it would protect him.

On what sources of information do you found that opinion?—The sources from which I derive that information, are from conversation that I have had with different importers of grain, and particularly a gentleman living at Lewes (who has imported a considerable quantity), a very large mealman and a merchant; he shewed me several letters lately, both from Dantzic and from Hamburgh, from merchants there, offering to ship wheat at certain prices.

Did he inform you what was the general average price of corn in those ports?—He did; he informed me, by letters that I saw, which he said came from his correspondents, merchants there, at what prices they would put different wheats on board; for white wheats and red wheats, to weigh 61 and 62 pounds a bushel.

Did he give you any information respecting other sorts of grain except wheat?—No, he did not. He is a large mealman; only dealing in wheat and flour.

At what prices did it appear that any of those wheats could be sold in England?—He told me, that after paying the freight, it could be delivered at Newhaven harbour, near Lewes, at from the 32 to 34 shillings a quarter; the freight would be about four shillings a quarter; that they could buy it at 28 shillings to 30 shillings.

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Did he state that as the usual average price, or merely the price at this present moment?—He stated that it was frequently lower; that he could frequently purchase it at a less price, and I suppose, *vice versa*, sometimes it would be higher; when the ports here are open, the prices rise on the opposite side.

You have stated that you rated the manual and horse labour at about four shillings a bushel?—Five shillings a bushel on wheat.

Does not the price of that labour vary to a certain degree, according to the price of corn; does not the cheapness of corn enable you to keep the horses cheaper, and to pay less wages to your work people?—Most undoubtedly; it operates both in reducing the price of horse labour and of manual labour.

Can you tell in what proportion the price of the food of the animal, both of the horse and the man, enter into the price of the labour?—No, I really cannot; I have not made that calculation, to speak with any degree of confidence.

You have said that you would have a permanent fixed duty on importation, equal to the difference of the expense of growing corn here, and growing corn in a foreign country; suppose that the population of England were very greatly to increase, and it should be necessary for us to have recourse to much poorer lands, would not the difference of expense between growing corn here, and growing corn abroad be much greater than it is at this moment; and according to your principle, would it not be necessary to increase the fixed permanent duty accordingly?—I answer, as human labour is a marketable article, like every thing else, the superabundance from an increase of population will have a tendency to reduce the price of that labour, for which reason I think much of the poorer lands of this country might be brought into cultivation, which now remain a positive waste, and the labourers be employed under proper protection.

Do you think that the price of corn would rise, if we were under the necessity of cultivating poorer lands for the support of our people?—The diminution in the price of labour would be a great inducement to the cultivation of poorer lands.

If you as a farmer were obliged to cultivate land of a worse quality than that you now cultivate, would it not be necessary for you to charge a higher price for your corn, in order to remunerate yourself for the capital you employed in it?—The expense of the cultivation is much greater on poor land considering the amount of produce; then on the other hand, by way of compensating the farmer, if there are a number of labourers in the parish whom he is compelled to employ, or pay them out of the poor rates, it is much better to employ them at considerably reduced wages, than to keep them on the poor rates.

Then according to your principle the farmer would get a greater profit if he cultivated poor land than if he cultivated good land, paying no rent for either?—Certainly not; I do not mean to say that.

Do you think that the price of labour is regulated by the price of corn in any degree?—I do think the price of corn has some operation on the price of labour, but certainly not to regulate it so as to make a regular scale of increase or decrease. If the Committee will permit me, I will state how it has an effect on the price of labour; the very reduced price of corn within the last two years has been the means of throwing a great many labourers out of employ, those labourers rather than remain idle would work for much less wages than they would do when there was constant employment for the whole of them.

Supposing we had a protecting duty sufficient to protect the grower of corn in this country, and consequently that the farmer was making his fair remunerating profit; if under those circumstances he chose to cultivate poorer lands, would not the consequence of that be a higher price of corn?—I should say, certainly not. I have never yet been given to understand, that an increased produce can tend to increase the price; an increased produce will diminish the price in this country.

Do you think the increased produce always tends to lower the price of the commodity produced?—The increased produce will tend to lower the price to the consumer.

Although the charge of producing it should be increased?—The farmer has it not in his power to charge what he thinks proper, or what will remunerate him for the expense of the article he produces; he is subject to other circumstances; he is different from a common manufacturer who calculates all his expenses in producing an article, and charges accordingly for that article.

What do you conceive to be the causes of the difference between the highest and lowest rent on land growing wheat?—The difference in product with reference to the capital employed in producing it.

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Supposing the demand for a commodity to increase in a greater degree than the supply, would not the price of that commodity rise although a greater quantity of it should be produced?—Undoubtedly it would.

Would not this be the case if poorer lands were cultivated, seeing that from the increase of population there would be a demand for a greater quantity of corn, whereas the means of producing an increased supply, would be attended with increased expense?—I do not apprehend that the extending the cultivation of the poorer lands of this country would have any tendency whatever to increase the population of the country; that being the case you have an increased supply of corn without any increased population, and consequently the price would be lower by extending the cultivation.

The increase of population is assumed, and the increase of the cultivation of poorer land in consequence?—If the produce of the soil keeps pace with the increase of the population, I see no reason why it should rise; if it did not it certainly would, and *vice versa*, if the increase of produce exceeded the increase of the population, it would tend rather to decrease the price than otherwise.

If Government lays a duty on the production of corn, has it not a tendency to raise the price of corn although no additional quantity should be produced, the demand remaining the same?—I do not apprehend that it would, even if a duty was positively fixed on the corn grown in this country; I do not see how that could tend to raise the price, except by diminishing the quantity of land used in the cultivation of that grain.

Suppose an increased population in England, would that be likely to have the effect of affording a greater supply from Ireland and Scotland, where they have no poor rates, by bringing some of their poorer grounds into cultivation, which are now uncultivated from the lowness of the price?—I should think it would. Whatever would tend to extend the cultivation both of Scotland and Ireland and this country, would operate to reduce the price of corn in this country to the consumer.

Supposing grain to keep up to nearly 80s. would not that have an immediate effect in bringing into cultivation some of the poorer soils in Scotland and Ireland which are now abandoned?—It certainly would, and of extending cultivation in this country also, if grain were to keep up to the price.

You have stated, that the farm for which you paid 680*l.* per annum in 1790, rose to 1,200*l.* per annum in 1811; that in 1814 it fell again to 1,000*l.* at which it has continued since?—Exactly so.

You have also stated, that the rent of other farms, for which you are agent, rose one-third from 1790 to 1811?—Yes.

They have now again fallen one-third?—Yes.

How do you account for the rise in the rent since 1790 of the farm which you hire, while the rents of the farms for which you are agent are the same or lower than they were in 1790?—I answer, that I can ask more for another than I can do for myself; that is the only reason. I have not so large an abatement as is made to other tenants on the estate for which I am concerned.

You have said, that on some of the best land which could be cultivated, a farmer would be remunerated even by the present low price of grain, if he had no rent to pay?—I believe, I stated, on some particular rich lands of light tillage, where the expence of tillage was but little.

What rent do you think is paid for that land per acre?—We have some land in the neighbourhood, that rents as high as 40s. an acre; some of the land I have been describing.

On that land, if no rent were paid, the farmer could even at this price obtain a profit?—Not at the price we are selling at in our county. We are selling wheat at Lewes, at no more than from forty-eight to fifty shillings per quarter; that is the best price at Lewes, except white wheats; I understand, they are selling higher in London.

Is there any land whatever in your county on which the farmer could obtain a profit by cultivating corn, if he had no rent whatever to pay?—I think there is some land of that description.

When you say, that the capital of the farmer has decreased in these unfortunate times, do you mean that the money value of his capital has decreased, or that his stock has actually decreased; that he has fewer cattle, horses, sheep; and a less quantity of hay, corn, and of other things which constitute the stock of a farm?—I beg to say, that on one particular farm over which I am agent, the farmer three or four years ago kept four or six oxen, (it is a small farm of 220*l.* a year); he kept

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six or eight young growing up breeding stock, that he bred to come into work; and also three to four cows, generally four. I was sorry to find the other day, in going over this farm, that all the young stock were gone, that all the oxen were gone; that he had only three cows; and had taken in four or five horses, which I saw in the yard, treading down the straw, in lieu of the oxen and young stock.

Do you think that this state of things is pretty general among the agricultural classes?—I do; and it is not confined only to the renter of lands. A circumstance occurred (within two months of this time) to me, of three farms, two of them were of the amount of 200*l.* a year each, and the other, 300*l.* a year; they have been in the occupation of the owners for fifteen or twenty years, and those the most economical farmers I know of in the county, who run into no unnecessary expense whatsoever; they applied to me to get some friend to advance them money on mortgage, for they could not go on, though they had no rent to pay; they could not pay the poors rates, &c.

You stated that the quantity of bonded wheat was injurious to the farmer in this country?—I think very considerably so?

Why should it be hurtful to him until the price rises to 80*s.*?—It is hurtful to him before the price rises to 80*s.* in this way; it takes several buyers out of the market. Those who would speculate in a very full market, in taking off the surplus beyond that necessary for the weekly consumption, now have laid out their money in the purchase of foreign corn, that is now under bond, as I have been informed by some of the factors here in town; for which reason, I conceive that the British corn brought to market now, has not so many buyers as it had before the warehousing system took place.

A man buying bonded corn at 46 *s.* has no probability of selling it till it rises to 80 *s.*; but another person buying free corn at fifty or sixty shillings may sell it whenever he pleases?—The precariousness of the seasons in this country are such, that we usually have once in about three or four years, a very defective crop, which if the price does not rise to nearly or quite 80*s.* a quarter, it is totally impossible that a farmer under those circumstances can be remunerated; so the speculators in corn (those who have got money at command) will not purchase under those circumstances, British corn at 60 *s.* if they can buy foreign corn, though under bond, at 40*s.* though the one is free and the other is bonded for the time.

If the warehousing system were done away in this country, would not foreign corn still be warehoused in the ports of Holland and Hamburgh, ready to be imported into this country, as soon as by law the ports were opened?—I have no doubt it would, but certainly not be purchased by the same people by whom it is purchased now that it is bonded in Great Britain.

Do you think that tithes fall ultimately upon the rent of land, or upon the consumer of the produce of land?—Immediately on occupiers; in some degree it must fall on the consumer, though the producers must bear a considerable proportion of the tithes at all times.

When you say that the English farmer cannot compete with the foreign grower of corn, on account of taxation, do you not mean that he is under the necessity of so raising the price of corn, to compensate him for the taxes, that the consumer finds it more profitable to buy the cheaper foreign corn?—I think it totally impossible that the grower of grain in this country can raise its price at pleasure; there can be no combination among the farmers, if one withholds, another will send to market.

But it will be necessary that he should raise the price, in order to compensate him for the tax?—It is necessary that the price should be raised; but I think it is totally out of the power of the farmer to raise it, it must be raised by the demand being greater than the supply.

When you say that the malt tax falls on the occupier, do you mean that that does not also fall on the consumer, by raising the price of malt and increasing the price of beer?—Not in the proportion that it does on the farmer; for this reason, the farmer finds beer to so many people, different from what a common family does; it has been the general practice in Sussex, for the farmer to find beer for all his labourers.

Supposing there was a free importation of barley, duty free, would not that tax, at present, fall entirely on the grower?—I should think it would be increasing the supply at market, and consequently reducing the price of the article.

Do you attribute the present low price of corn entirely to the increased supply, or do you attribute a part of it to the alteration in the value of currency?—I really have no knowledge of the operation of the currency on increasing prices.

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Then you attribute the whole fall to the increased supply of corn, or the decreased consumption?—It must be principally from the increased supply at market.

Do you observe that there is an increased consumption of potatoes among the labouring classes in your neighbourhood?—I think there is a considerable increase within these ten years.

Do you think that the large importation previous to the end of February 1819 has had an effect upon the price of corn to a late period?—There can be no doubt it has had a very great influence on the markets, it has tended to increase the quantity of grain brought to market, and by increasing the supply, the demand continuing the same, the price must decline.

Do you understand that there is any of that corn in the market which never has been bonded?—I am informed by a factor, there are nearly, or quite, 50,000 quarters in the market.

Have the importations from Ireland increased much?—I believe they have.

Have there been any recent improvements in agriculture since 1790, so that a greater quantity of produce is obtained, on an average, with the expenditure of the same quantity of capital?—There has been a very considerable increase of produce since the year 1790, but I cannot say with the same amount of capital expended; the increase of capital in the cultivation of land has been the cause of the increase of produce.

With a certain quantity of capital, is the same or a greater amount of corn produced than in the year 1790?—I should not suppose any more can be produced with the same amount of capital.

If the produce of corn in the country is diminished, as you stated on the former day, what induces you to state, that looking prospectively the price of corn will not rise?—If the corn is to be purchased on the continent, at prices at which it is selling now, and that inducement is held out of the warehousing that corn in England, knowing that in three or four years we are likely to have a deficiency of crop, so as to raise its price; that the ports may be opened, and this corn poured on the market immediately, would tend to reduce the price.

Were there not as poor lands in cultivation in England fifty years ago as there are now, the question not referring to quantity?—I have not a knowledge of any poor lands to any extent having been thrown out of cultivation yet.

Was there as poor land in cultivation fifty years ago as there is now?—Some as poor; but I think there is more now.

Have you observed of late any material alteration in the mode of farming?—I have.

In your opinion, if there is not some further remedy applied to the evils now existing on agriculture, must it continue to retrograde?—I think it will very rapidly indeed; if the farmer has not the means of paying his labourers he cannot employ them; the employment of labour on a farm has been withdrawn considerably within the last two years, and I think is still withdrawing.

The effect in your opinion will be, that there will be a great deal of moderate land thrown out of cultivation?—Certainly; and the better land will not be cultivated so well as it has been; I mean at the same expense.

Can you suggest to the Committee, any plan that would operate as a means of encouraging speculators to purchase British corn?—By withdrawing from them the opportunity of laying out their money in the purchase of foreign corn under bond.

Was it ever the practice in the county of Sussex, for parishes to apportion the labourers according to the extent of occupation?—It has been done to a considerable extent in a parish where I am concerned; the parish of Mayfield, about this time twelvemonth had upwards of forty strong hearty labourers out of employment, and had been so for some time, and supported entirely out of the poor rates; they held a vestry, and allotted them in the way described, according to each man's occupation.

Is that practice still generally enforced?—Yes, and it is extending; several parishes have adopted it this year that did not before, in consequence of the men being thrown out of employment.

That practice must cease in proportion as capital diminishes?—As capital diminishes I fear that it will increase; as the farmer is deprived of the means of employing them on his farm, they will be thrown on the parish or put out in the way I describe, what we term billeting them on the farmers, at a very reduced price of wages, the remainder necessary for their subsistence being paid out of the poor rates.

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How long has that practice prevailed?—I knew nothing of it four or five years ago; I do not think there was one instance of it in the county at that time; within these two years I know many parishes which have adopted it.

Supposing one of your neighbours fails in the same parish as yourself, the burthen of labour is increased upon you all, who, in fact, share the evil arising from his failure?—Most certainly; but in the parish where I reside, I occupy four-fifths of the whole parish; therefore it does not affect me in the same way as it affects persons in other parishes.

To what extent are the poors' rates in your parish?—Between six and seven shillings in the pound on the rack rent.

When you first began business, were your labourers in the daily habit of drinking beer?—Yes; all of them.

Has that practice ceased altogether, or does it prevail now in part?—It has ceased generally where the masters do not find them in beer; when I first began farming in the parish where I now reside, we had not a family in the parish that did not brew their own beer, and enjoy it by their own fire-side; there are few of them now that do, unless I give them the malt.

Do you not believe, that in consequence of their being deprived of their former beverage, they have been obliged to resort very much to spirits?—That was the case some years back, but spirits have become more scarce than they were; we have not so much smuggling as formerly.

Can you form any opinion what deduction from the present burthens of the farmer, such as rent, tithes, taxes, and poors rates, would enable him to continue the farm with sufficient profit to himself to encourage him to proceed?—I have not calculated that.

Have there been any parishes which have been the object of Bills of Inclosure in your neighbourhood?—Only one that I recollect, the Dicher Inclosure.

In the opinion you gave upon the necessity of a permanent protecting duty, you stated thirty-five shillings to forty shillings; you stated at the same time that foreign corn could be imported here for thirty-four shillings, and thirty-five shillings, would make sixty-nine shillings, or forty shillings make seventy-four shillings; is it your opinion that seventy-four shillings as the highest return to the farmer, would enable him to continue the growth of wheat?—I think not; as the highest return, certainly not.

Would that not be the highest return if foreign corn was admissible at all times at the duties you have stated?—I should think not.

Why do you think not?—Except the import exceeds very considerably what it has done.

Have you any doubt that if it were admissible at all times, it would greatly exceed what it has now that it has been under restrictions?—It would only exceed in those years when the price rose to eighty shillings a quarter or something more, the present price would shut out the import.

You are decidedly of opinion that seventy-five shillings would not be a generally remunerating price to the farmer?—I think not, under the present poors rates and taxes.

During the whole course of your life as a farmer, on what description of soil have your heaviest disappointments arisen; on your good soil, your best, or your worst soil?—The greatest disappointments have been on the poorest soil, and the very heavy tillage land, some heavy tillage lands which lie between the sand and the chalk are very expensive to the cultivators.

What you call the heavy soil produces in some seasons the very finest wheat?—In some seasons it does.

Do you conceive that the produce of last year was above an average crop?—I think in the county of Sussex it exceeded an average crop.

Do you think it equal to that of 1813?—No, I think not.

Do you think it is more than an average crop in every species of grain?—I should think it was.

What is the lowest sum that a farmer ought to be repaid for an acre of wheat, in order to afford a remunerating price?—I should say not less than 12*l.* an acre.

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A Member of the Committee; examined.

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HAVE the goodness to state to the Committee, your opinions as to the declension in the demand for labour, and the causes of that declension?—I consider the low prices of corn to have compelled the farmers in general to alter their mode of cultivation. I cultivate a farm of between eleven and twelve hundred acres; the soil generally a strong poor clay. In more prosperous times, when there was a prospect of return, I was in the habit of having a considerable green crop; but from the decrease in the prices of grain for the last two years, the loss has been so great, and the prospect of remuneration so small, that I felt myself under the necessity of relinquishing it in a very considerable degree, nearly to the amount of between sixty and seventy acres, substituting fallow; and suffering what would have been broke up for tillage, to remain under grass. The general average of wages for many years has been, as nearly as I can state, as applied to objects connected with the farm, about 2,400*l.*; in the last year there was a reduction of labour to the amount of pretty nearly 380*l.*: as the wages are always paid by my own hand when at home, I therefore know that I am pretty accurate in the amount. I have observed in all the farms, as far as my own knowledge extends throughout the county of Cumberland, a deterioration in the cultivation. The pressure has been such, that the purchase of adventitious sources of manure, particularly on strong soils, has decreased in a very considerable degree; and I think myself warranted in saying, that I believe the sum of money expended in labour has decreased most generally throughout the whole county of Cumberland; adding in many instances considerably to the poor rates, but perhaps not equal to what might have been, as a great part of the labourers employed in that county were Irish who formerly got employ there, but in consequence of not being employed, have returned to their own country. The number of Irish who have been sent under the recent regulations from Cumberland to Ireland, has certainly been great. Supplying the greatest part of those employed, both in the collieries and in the farm, with their bread corn for many years, I have had an opportunity of observing, notwithstanding the reduction in the price of wheat, which it is now, about half-a-crown a stone, the consumption is considerably less than it was when formerly it was at 5*s.* The deficiency is supplied by barley and potatoes. The consumption of barley has supplied the place, with a great increase in the consumption of potatoes. Potatoes have become in a great measure the food of the labouring classes. The reduction in the price of labour has been very considerable. Labour was formerly from 12*s.* to 14*s.* for good labourers; I mean in the places where there was a considerable population; but where the population is smaller, the wages bear a proportion to that population, and are higher. In those places where there is a considerable population, the wages have been reduced from 13*s.* to 10*s.* for able bodied men, and as low as 8*s.*; that much fewer women and children are employed; and that the wages of all the artizans, masons, and so on, have been reduced in the proportion from 18*s.* to 14*s.* a week.

You have stated that you have, in consequence of the expense of labour, laid down your land in fallow, instead of green crops; do you mean by that, that you have laid your land in bare fallow, instead of turnip crops?—Yes.

Do you not feel it necessary to keep your fallows as clean as your turnip crops?—Certainly.

How much less expensive is it to clean a bare fallow than to drill turnips?—I apprehend the complete ploughing of a fallow will be done for about half a guinea per acre; whereas the hoeing turnips completely I think could not be done, (but it depends a great deal on the state of the soil,) for less than 6*s.* for Swedes, and 4*s.* common turnips, for hand labour, besides an equal expense for the hoe and plough. The hoeings may be estimated, for Swedes 30*s.* common turnips 24*s.*

Would not the produce of the land in turnips more than compensate for the additional expense in hoeing?—I think not; and for this reason, that upon that kind of soil they must be drawn, and the expense of drawing is so enormous as to make the difference very considerable.

Are you of opinion that the recurrence to our former standard has altered the value of our currency?—I think it must have had some operation, because it has lessened I conceive considerably, the issue of country bank paper, and therefore has rendered

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rendered it more difficult for the farmer to obtain accommodations; and in that point of view, I think it has altered it.

To what extent do you think it has altered the value of our currency?—I cannot say that precisely; it has increased it undoubtedly. There is another cause operating with it, and that is this, the decrease in the value of produce has placed farmers in the situation that they have not the security to offer for the loans that they formerly could obtain. I verily believe that the distress of the country is more from a reduction of price, than from the alteration in the currency.

Supposing the value of our currency to have been increased twenty-five per cent, as has been stated by some gentlemen, does not that operate to increase the real importation price, which was fixed in the year 1815, from eighty to a hundred?—I am not able to give an answer to that, which will be satisfactory to myself; as matter of opinion, if it has had that effect, undoubtedly it must have altered the importation. The farmers universally, so far as I know, have been paying their rents in a great measure from their capital, and not from their produce, though rents are reduced in a very great degree, upon bad lands I should think not less than, in the year 1816, about ten per cent; and I think since that, not less than twenty, or from that to thirty.

What is the remedy you would recommend for the present distressed state of agriculture?—I should certainly, in the first instance, recommend such a duty to be placed upon the importation of Foreign grain, as would place the British farmer in an equally advantageous situation with the foreign grower; I should also apprehend, it would be indispensable to relieve the farmer from some of the taxes that fall most heavily upon him.

Would you have that duty a fixed duty?—I should consider it certainly would be desirable to have it a fixed duty, because every person knows, that the continuance of bad weather at certain seasons, for a few weeks often creates an alarm in the country, that would be likely to have a great effect upon the prices, and probably more than it ought, because the harvest is frequently got in even in bad seasons, in the latter part of it much better than would at the commencement have been supposed possible.

What duty would you be disposed to recommend?—I should apprehend, that the price of grain in Poland, from whence the greatest supply comes, is not more than 16s. when sold to the speculator at Dantzic. The price at Odessa much less, and that the speculator in the first instance, gains probably not much less than a hundred per cent by it; and that the cause of bringing it to this country in the quantities that have been so ruinous to it, have been the enormous profits expected by the importer; and if the duty was to be a floating one, it would be a great inducement, when there was a prospect of a bad harvest in the commencement of it, to order into the country at the commencement of it, great quantities of grain.

Under all the circumstances, what is the amount of duty you would recommend?—If grain was to come unlimitedly, that is, if the ports were to be always open, I should conceive, that it ought not to come into this country at less than 72s. per quarter. The duty therefore, I would recommend should be 40s.

Would it not be necessary to increase that duty, if our population should increase, and poorer lands should be cultivated in this country?—If the population was to increase, so as to make a demand, that would keep the grain pretty nearly at 80s. I consider it would hold out so great a bounty to the Irish and Scotch grower, that they would be able to supply any increase that was likely to be wanted in any moderate degree of population, that they would be able to supply it, and that it would not advance the general price; it is to be observed, that the Irish grower is not a consumer, that the great bulk of the people in Ireland are not consumers; and that therefore if there was sufficient price, I have no doubt the quantity could be increased to a very great amount indeed from Ireland.

If no rent were paid by the farmer, would there not be a variety of different remunerating prices, according to the quality of the land on which the corn was grown?—Undoubtedly.

What is the lowest price at which it can be grown, upon the very best land, under the present circumstances of taxation in this country?—I can scarcely say; cultivating land which I never but once had forty bushels of wheat on, I may perhaps not be a fair judge of the best quality of lands in the country, but taking the average, which I think I do largely, supposing it on the best quality of lands to be thirty or thirty-two Winchester bushels, then I should say, that I think without rent in those soils, it ought to be near 60s. to be a remunerating price.

J. C. Curwen,
Esq.

(15 March.)

Has much land been thrown out of cultivation in the county of Cumberland?—A great deal has been thrown out of cultivation; and a great part that was from the high prices of wheat applied to wheat, has certainly been discontinued, the cultivators having sustained immense losses.

In the regular and ordinary course of affairs, do you think that tithes and poor rates fall on the landlord; or, by raising the price of corn, on the consumer;—They certainly must be taken into consideration as rent. I consider that the individual who hires a farm, hires it with a reference to the charges upon it; that the tithe-free lands always let considerably higher, even perhaps more than the tithe, from the inconvenience and vexations attending the collection of them.

Supposing an additional tithe, equal to the old tithe, were now to be laid on the land for the first time, do you think it would fall upon the consumer of corn, or would the farmer deduct it from his rent on the renewal of his lease?—If I could contemplate a tithe equal to what it is at present being laid upon the land, I believe it would operate generally to discourage all cultivation whatever; I would not cultivate a farm that paid tithe on any inducement that could be held out.

You would, if the price remunerated you?—I would not, if the tithe were drawn, cultivate it at any temptation that could be held out; I speak from my own feelings; but to a practical farmer I consider it a very great discouragement. I know of no situation where the tithe is drawn, that the cultivation is not in a very inferior state.

Do you not suppose that the tithe is not paid wholly either by the landlord or by the consumer, but that it is divided between both?—I consider probably that it will be so, because it certainly goes to increase the value of the land that is tithe-free, as certainly rent is demanded in proportion to the tithe that is paid for the land that is not tithe-free, and therefore so far it goes to throw it upon the consumer.

Supposing there was a free importation of grain, would it fall at all upon the consumer?—No; I conceive if there was a free importation of grain, it would have that kind of operation as to almost put an end to our farming; it would be so ruinous a consequence that I cannot answer for what would be the effect of it.

Do you not think if a high duty were imposed on the importation of grain into this country, it would have the effect of creating dissatisfaction throughout the country among those classes of the community not so much interested in the produce of the soil, in as much as it would show them that bread in other countries was to be had at so much a cheaper rate than in this?—I do not apprehend it would, because the labouring classes have now had a full proof of the consequence of cheap bread, which has operated to decrease their wages, to lessen their employment, and to reduce the comforts of all classes in the country, that I believe the good sense of the country at large is convinced of this, both manufacturing and agricultural labourers; and that the first cause which must result from bringing up the price of corn to the standard or near to it of 80 s. would be an increased quantum of employment, an augmentation of wages, and a power of spending on the part of the labouring classes, the inability of which has operated so ruinously upon the trade of the country.

What portion of the labouring wages in general is applied to the purchase of bread corn?—I suppose that half a stone of flour per week is generally about the quantity used in a family; I supply about 3,000 people, and have found that to be about the quantity.

Does not the comfort of the labouring classes depend, not on any positive price for their bread, but upon the relation that that price bears to their earnings.—It certainly does.

If therefore it is maintained that the labourers could bear a high price for their bread, it is on the presumption that they could obtain wages by their employment sufficient to enable them to pay those high prices?—Undoubtedly.

But if they had those high prices for bread without any corresponding demand for their labour, would they not be in a greater state of misery than they even now are?—Undoubtedly they would.

Does in your opinion the price of labour depend upon the price of bread?—It does not entirely depend upon it, because where there is a superabundance of labour it must fall in proportion as labour exceeds demand.

Does it not depend upon the price of other commodities?—Not in such cases.

Does not the happiness of society depend upon the quantity of productions of all sorts which can be obtained by the labour which that society can command?—In a considerable degree it certainly must; but the habits of people are formed upon what they have been able to earn, and I consider that the great point of suffering now is, that

that from the reduction of labour they have been forced to renounce both their comforts and luxuries; to descend to an inferior kind of food is felt as a great privation.

If a certain number of people, with a certain capital, could obtain a greater quantity of the objects of man's desire, by employing their labour in manufactures, and importing corn, than by growing their corn, would you not then say, that it was for the interest of society that they should so import grain?—I conceive that is asking me a thing that is utterly impossible, for there is no country in the world, where there is any degree of population, one-half of which is nearly employed in agriculture, which would leave employment for the other half; therefore I cannot contemplate the situation of a great country who could, by possibility, be importers of grain, and find employment for their people; at present, every man that was to be displaced from agriculture has not the smallest degree of prospect of finding employment in any manufacture of this kingdom; for I believe those already employed could produce, if they had a market, one-third more goods; and, therefore, the contemplation of throwing the poor lands out of cultivation presents what must be alarming to every gentleman, a population, to the amount of many hundred thousands, that must be in the situation of their labour being unproductive, and must claim support from the poor rates, or, where there are no poor rates, be supported by the benevolence of others.

You think that if labourers were thrown out from this employment on the land, no increased demand for labour would take place in other occupations?—No; I cannot see the possibility of it; because the people already who are manufacturers are capable of producing, as I said before, one-third more than there is any market for; and therefore every hand that was displaced from agriculture becomes, instead of a productive labourer, immediately a charge and burthen.

How long have you been in the practice of farming?—Nearly twenty years.

What was considered a fair price for wheat at the period when you began to farm?—From 6 s. to 7 s. a bushel, or 48 s. to 56 s. a quarter.

Is not that, as nearly as possible, the present price?—It is.

To what do you attribute the circumstance of that being a fair remunerating price to you at that period, and its being a ruinous price at present?—Labour has increased rather more than one half; taxation has enormously increased, far more than double; the price of all the articles, such as wood, iron, workmanship and leather, has greatly increased; the poor rates, county rates, highways, are increased, and tythes also, more than double.

Is not the price of agricultural labour regulated by the price of provisions?—No; I think not.

Why not?—Because labour depends upon the quantity of labour, and the demand for it, and therefore what may be the general rate of wages, may be lowered by there being a greater number of people in the market contending for wages, than there is occasion: I am speaking, perhaps, more in the view of my own farm; we have many Irish coming for labour, that reduce our labour most considerably from what it would otherwise be.

If your price of provisions is now pretty nearly the same as it was twenty years ago, and if the price of your labour is doubled, are not the comforts of your labourers very much increased by that position of things?—The reduction being pretty nearly one-third, I think the fall in victuals is not equal to one-third, and therefore the situation of the labourer is certainly worse than it was.

Are the Committee to understand, with regard to labour, that the 12 s. has come back to 8 s. or in that proportion?—Yes; the people at present in our county, have from 8 s. to 10 s.

Then at the present moment, labour is pretty much at the same price that it was twenty years ago?—It is.

As far as labour is concerned, there is no additional charge to the farmer now, compared with his situation twenty years ago, excepting always the question of poor rates?—No.

What taxation applies to the business of a farmer now which did not apply to him twenty years ago?—First of all, there is an increase in the leather tax, the horse tax, the window tax, the malt tax, soap, candles, salt, and taxes applying to buildings of all kinds; I am not prepared to give an exact answer of all the things; I feel the effect of taxation, but I cannot state the articles on which the taxes are laid, and their amounts specifically.

J. C. Curwen,
Esq.

(15 March.)

Can you state how much you have paid in any one year for the duty on agricultural horses?—I have generally paid duty for about forty horses at 17 s. 6 d. each, about 35 l.

Can you state the quantity of leather used in your farm?—No; not having looked at it with that view, I am not able to make that statement.

Are not the other duties upon the house the farmer lives in, upon his beer, or upon other articles of his consumption, the same which are borne by all other subjects of the King?—By all that that have the same family to maintain no doubt; but within the period of twenty years, all things he uses or consumes have increased, and have all become charges out of the profits of the farmer, and therefore go into the price of his farm.

You have stated as a principal burthen which the farmer now bears, as compared with his former situation, the general prices of all articles; is there any reason to suppose that the price of those articles is not actually reduced, or in a course of reduction; the question refers to all articles used in the business of a farmer, wood, iron, leather or other articles?—Many articles undoubtedly are falling: I wish also to state that one cause that has acquired the farmer a better price, has been a great increase in the capital, necessary to carry on the trade twenty years ago; the capital now is doubled.

Veneris, 16^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

John Christian Curwen, Esq.

A Member of the Committee; further Examined.

J. C. Curwen,
Esq.

(16 March.)

WHAT is the amount of taxation affecting your land?—It is not in my power to state that without consideration; I have stated the horse tax.

Can you state the direct and indirect taxes together?—I could not, without having my papers with me; it would require a considerable time to look at the different items of taxation.

In what manner is the capital of a farmer, who had a farm of a hundred acres twenty years ago, now doubled?—In the price of his horses and his cattle and sheep, and all the stock he has, as well as in the cost of all the materials of his utensils.

Have you any reason to expect, that those articles, constituting the capital of the farmer, will be considerably lower within a short space of time?—I should most unwillingly anticipate such an idea, because if that be the case, great as the distress now is, it must be considerably augmented.

Will that not be the necessary effect of the low price of corn, if such low price should continue?—I can scarce contemplate the present prices continuing, without considering that it must bring a total ruin upon the country.

Supposing the present prices of corn were to continue, would not the protecting duties in almost all articles of foreign manufacture, prevent the home manufacture from falling in the same proportion as corn?—I consider they would not; because, as the consumer is the farmer, if he was incapable of being a purchaser, I must consider that that protection would avail nothing to the seller, if he had not a customer; my belief is, that the great distress now felt by the manufacturer, arises from the decrease of the home market, which decrease, in my opinion, is considerably more than the whole of the free foreign trade.

Supposing that the farmer could purchase at this moment from foreign countries, articles of consumption cheaper than he could get them at home, would he not be inclined to do so?—No doubt he would, if he was at liberty.

Therefore the protecting duties prevent those articles coming into competition with the home manufacture?—Undoubtedly; but I consider every protection given to the trade of the country is generally beneficial, because, if it goes to increase the wealth

wealth of that part of the people, it produces a greater power in them to be the consumers of those articles, the produce of this country; and, for one, I have no objection to give a protection to every thing of English manufacture, for I hold, that the best principle to be pursued, is that of bringing into activity the greatest possible quantity of labour, and as such, claiming every thing for the farmer, I should say, that were it a question now, of giving him the liberty to export his wool, I should object to it; I am sensible it would be advantageous to the wool grower; it would give to him who grew, probably, one-half more in capital; where he had got a shilling he would get eighteen-pence; but then, as to the manufacture, it multiplies its value three-fold; the loss to the community would be as one to nine; therefore I would proceed upon this principle of asking nothing for the farmer, that would be an injury to the public at large.

Was your turnip crop good or bad last year?—The Swedes, which were four acres, sown in the latter end of April, produced thirty-two tons and a quarter per acre, but having determined upon lessening the extent of general green crop common turnips, I gave to this crop twice the manure, and I have found, in so doing, that six stone of Swedes are preferable to twelve stone of common turnips; that the common white turnip was so retarded by the uncommon wet season; it was not sown till six weeks after the usual time, and its produce was almost next to nothing.

Do you conceive, that if there has been a general deficiency in the crop of turnips, it may be attributed considerably to the present distress?—Undoubtedly; that would have contributed materially, if there had been the same consumption for animal food there was in former years; but as the consumption is so much decreased, even with the reduction in the quantity of turnips, it has been adequate to the supply of the market.

You have spoken of protecting duties to manufactures; do you think they have been increased within the last twenty years, so as to have any effect on the price of manufactured commodities?—I certainly do consider the protections have increased very materially; I scarce know a single trade that is not protected; and I beg to say, that I do not complain of it; but I ask for agriculture, that protection given to every other branch of trade.

Can you state what proportion the home market, for the consumption of our manufactured goods, bears to the foreign markets?—Upon this question I must undoubtedly speak with considerable diffidence; but the estimate I have always made in my mind is this; that the home market is considered as 4, the foreign markets, over which we have no control, as 1, and our own colonial demand as 1 more, making 6; that is the way I have always considered it.

That would be the proportion of four to one?—Yes, of the foreign trade over which we have no control; and as two to one compared with the whole trade.

Would a free trade in corn materially change those proportions?—That must depend upon, whether in the present state of Europe, and the disposition there is in every country to manufacture for themselves, we could find a market for our goods, if we could it must have that effect; but if it had that effect, it would not by any means compensate for the great increase of unproductive labour.

What do you consider unproductive labour?—I mean, that if we were to become purchasers of foreign corn, so as throw out of cultivation any considerable quantity of inferior lands, I see no prospect of those individuals now employed in the cultivation of it, being employed in any other way.

Do you mean to consider no labour productive but that employed in the cultivation of the soil?—By no means; I only mean by taking from them that labour; I do not see how they could be employed in any other way; that the people who were earning twenty pounds would probably become, instead of producers, consumers at the cost of other people.

If we imported foreign corn, would there not be a demand for our commodities in order to pay for that corn, in addition to the demand which at present exists?—It is very difficult for me to answer a question which implies a knowledge of all the markets of Europe, and other parts of the world, which I do not pretend to have; but from such knowledge as naturally comes to every gentleman, of the disposition of all countries to manufacture for themselves, I doubt extremely, if there is any prospect, at least in Europe, of any augmentation of our trade.

In what way then should we pay for this foreign corn?—That I confess is more than I can answer, and I think is one argument that ought to show the great wisdom there is in cultivating our own country.

J. C. Curwen,
Esq.

(16 March.)

But you will admit, that the condition upon which we could obtain foreign corn, must be the exportation of commodities of equal value with the corn imported?—Doubtless.

Do you think, if the proportions of the home consumption, and the foreign consumption of our manufactured goods, were altered by the ports being opened to foreign corn free, whether the alteration taking place, would not be caused by means of the home consumer being compelled to purchase, rather than by any increase of the purchase of foreigners for our manufactured goods?—Was foreign corn to come in, it certainly must have the effect of throwing a great number of people out of employment, and those people would not be able to be consumers of corn, they must take other food, they must use potatoes as they do in Ireland; and then, I think, the consumption in the country must very greatly decrease, because it is known that, in Ireland, the great bulk of the people never use bread at all, and as far as health or comfort go, there is no suffering from the want of food in Ireland.

What would become of the capital of the agriculturist, if we imported foreign corn duty free?—I can scarce tell what he would do with it. It would certainly be very much reduced in value; but what he would do with it I cannot tell, because I do not see any branch of trade he could put it in with success.

If he saw no prospect of laying it out with advantage in this country, would he not employ it somewhere else?—The most enterprising part of the country doubtless would, but the difficulties attending the transporting to America, or any of our colonies, does not afford any great encouragement.

Would not his capital be added to the general capital of the country, and naturally seek for employment?—Certainly.

Supposing corn was allowed to be imported free into this country, the other duties remaining the same, would not the effect of that be to throw a large proportion of the agricultural population out of employment?—Yes; it appears to me, if that was to be the case, it would throw so large a proportion out of employment, as I very much question, whether the whole income of the land could maintain in Great Britain.

Could those persons so thrown out of employment, be employed in manufactures?—It is utterly impossible.

Then, who would have to support those persons till in the process of time they could find employment in other ways?—In Great Britain they would become chargeable to the poor rates; in other countries I cannot say what would become of them.

Are you acquainted with any branch of industry which is at present overstocked with labour?—I apprehend there is none. In the course of this very day I have received, from Manchester and various other places, complaints, that the distress is so great, that the greatest gain of the manufacturer, taking into consideration the time he is out of employment, does not exceed fifteen shillings a week; but the much greater part, not more than eight shillings a week; and their distresses are such, that they are asking that some legislative measure may take place for the destruction of machinery.

Mr. John Lake; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

You are a farmer residing in the neighbourhood of Bapchild, near Sittingbourne, Kent?—I am.

Have you long been engaged in husbandry?—All my life.

Have you a general acquaintance with the county of Kent?—Yes, I believe so; as much as any other person in the county.

State to the Committee your general opinion of the situation of that county now, whether the agriculture is in a declining or flourishing state?—Declining beyond any thing I recollect.

Are you yourself a considerable occupier of land there?—Yes.

State to the Committee, with reference to the last two years, whether your engagements have been productive of gain, or whether you have suffered loss?—Loss, most unquestionably.

Have you any statement with you that will illustrate to the Committee what you have now stated?—Yes, I have here a short statement.

[The witness delivered in the following paper:]

LOSSES

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

Rent paid 3,576—Loss 1,995 10 3½

Have you any statement to that effect?—I have; it was drawn in a great hurry.

[The witness produced a paper, which was delivered in, and read, as follows:]

EXPENSES in raising the Produce, under a Seven Tith System, as applicable to the Neighbourhood of Sittingbourne, in Kent; per acre.

Feed from Straw and Horse meat equal to carting in, threshing, and carting out.

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

Is it an impropriate rectory where your land is situated?—Yes, it is.

Are you aware, that larger tithes are taken usually by an impropriate rector than when in other hands?—Unquestionably.

What is the highest amount of tithe you happen to recollect being paid by a composition for wheat?—I have known wheat at 30s. an acre for tithe.

The Committee understand you to say, that 54*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* is the total amount of expenditure for seven years cultivation of an acre of land in your neighbourhood?—Yes.

Can you state to the Committee, what the receipts of an acre of land in the same period will amount to?—I can.

Is that statement you are about to produce the actual receipts, or an estimate made upon any data for calculation?—It is an estimate made upon calculation, and about the average produce of our land; and the prices the very lowest that will remunerate the farmer.

[*The Witness read and delivered in the following Paper:*]

Produce per acre from a seventh Tilth System, as applicable to the neighbourhood of Sittingbourne, in Kent.

	£.	s.	d.
1. Turnips, fed on the land - - - - -	2	5	0
2. Barleys, 36 bu'. per acre at 4 <i>s.</i> per bushel - -	7	4	0
3. Beans, 32 d° 4 - - - - -	6	8	0
4. Wheats, 32 d° 10 - - - - -	16	0	0
5. Clover, fed or by mowing consumed on the farm; expenses abated - - - - -	4	0	0
6. Wheats, 32 bu'. d° 10 - - - - -	16	0	0
7. Oats, 48 d° 3 - - - - -	7	4	0
	59	1	0
Expenses annexed - - - - -	54	17	10
	4	3	2

Whole profit - - - - - 7)4 3 2

Annual profit to the farmer per acre 0 11 10½ which is not quite equal to 10 per cent upon his capital employed.

Upon what capital employed, do you make your calculation?—12*l.* an acre.

With reference to the quality of your land, how is it situated with reference to the rest of the county?—I think it classes with the best of the county.

Can you furnish the Committee with any statement of prices, at which you have sold your corn for any number of years back?—I have looked into my accounts, and have got the prices for corn sold in the months of March since 1791.

As it is a private document, have you any objection to produce it?—No, I have not.

[*The Witness delivered in the following paper, which was read:*]

CORN SALES in March, as under:

Price per Quarter.		Of Wheat.		Beans.		Pease.		Barley.		Oats.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
In	1792 - - -	41	0	28	0	33	0	26	0	21	0
	1793 - - -	49	0	31	0	-	-	-	-	23	0
	1794 - - -	51	0	34	0	36	0	36	0	26	0
	1795 - - -	68	0	38	0	-	-	38	0	27	6
	1796 - - -	117	0	36	0	64	0	-	-	-	-
	1797 - - -	51	0	23	0	-	-	-	-	18	0
	1798 - - -	57	0	24	6	-	-	28	0	20	0
	1799 - - -	54	6	38	0	40	0	-	-	28	0
	1800 - - -	120	0	63	0	-	-	-	-	55	0
	1801 - - -	181	0	56	0	-	-	88	0	47	0
	1802 - - -	83	0	34	0	42	0	-	-	25	0
	1803 - - -	59	0	27	0	34	0	24	6	21	0
	1804 - - -	48	0	34	0	56	0	25	0	23	0
	1805 - - -	100	0	44	0	50	0	44	0	32	0

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

Price per Quarter.	Of Wheat.		Beans.		Pease.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
In 1806 - - -	72	0	32	0	40	0	35	0	30	0
1807 - - -	82	0	40	0	70	0	38	0	31	0
1808 - - -	80	0	52	0	100	0	44	0	37	0
1809 - - -	96	0	50	0	120	0	46	0	40	0
1810 - - -	107	0	44	0	65	0	45	0	30	0
1811 - - -	99	0	36	0	60	0	36	0	—	—
1812 - - -	120	0	52	0	80	0	50	0	34	0
1813 - - -	134	0	72	0	100	0	70	0	48	0
1814 - - -	80	0	42	0	96	0	42	0	29	0
1815 - - -	77	0	26	0	42	0	30	0	25	0
1816 - - -	60	0	-	-	-	-	27	6	24	0
1817 - - -	119	0	40	0	76	0	60	0	40	0
1818 - - -	96	0	-	-	56	0	50	0	32	0
1819 - - -	78	0	50	0	64	0	-	-	36	0
1820 - - -	75	0	36	0	44	0	36	0	24	0
1821 - - -	60	0	24	0	40	0	24	0	18	0

You have hitherto spoken of lands in your own occupation; are you employed as a surveyor, and have you been in the habit of looking over different parts of the county where you reside?—Yes, I have.

State the general opinion you have formed of those lands, whether you think they are in as good a state of cultivation as they were three years ago, or whether you think less labour has been employed upon them, and whether you think capital has been withdrawn?—Certainly the lands are in a very much worse state than they were three years ago, from a great deal of capital being withdrawn.

As far as your knowledge goes, did the farmer lose in 1818?—I think he did not lose in 1818, generally speaking.

How was the case in 1819?—A considerable loss in 1819.

In the next year, 1820?—Much worse. When I speak of 1820, I mean closing with the harvest of 1819; from Michaelmas to Michaelmas.

With regard to the payment of rent at the last Michaelmas, when rents are generally due in Kent; do you believe that any farmers have paid that rent out of profit?—I do not know an instance where they have.

Have you any of your family engaged in agriculture, in the occupation of farms?—Yes.

Can you state to the Committee, whether they have been enabled to pay their rents from any profits they have derived?—No; I am very sorry to say, I have been obliged to assist them, or they would not have been paid.

Has that been to a very considerable extent?—Yes, very considerable.

Are the lands in the occupation of the persons you are speaking of, of a good quality?—Yes, of a very fair quality.

Do you consider the persons occupying those farms to conduct them in such a manner that they would have been productive if the times were not adverse?—The farms have been productive, but the adversity of the times has occasioned a loss upon them.

Is there any thing in the mode of living of those persons, with respect to extravagance, to deduct from the just profits of their business?—None, that I know of.

Can you state, whether those persons board their farming servants in their own house?—Yes; invariably.

Have you had general experience throughout the county of Kent, so as to justify you in saying, that the same is the case, generally speaking, as with regard to those particular instances?—No; I do not think it is the case generally.

Is it the general practice to board the farming servants in Kent?—Yes, I believe, it is more than otherwise.

How is that, with regard to yourself; do you board your own farming servants?—No; where I reside, I do not. It originated in the extreme illness of my wife, who became unable to manage the household affairs; and from that circumstance they were put away, by which a considerable increase of expense was incurred.

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

In what way?—It occasioned an additional expenditure of house-rent, firing, and keeping all those people and their families.

Have you any knowledge, whether there is any distress among the tradesmen in your county, from the nonpayment of bills?—The bills are very badly paid.

Has any fall in the price of the different articles necessary in farm houses, taken place?—Very little; but there is a general buz about it.

Is there any fall in the blacksmith's prices?—I believe not.

Nor as to the tanner?—Not to my knowledge.

The collar-maker?—None.

Iron being much cheaper now, how do you account for the blacksmith's not charging less?—Most of the farmers are making a stand, and the probable result will be, that they will work lower.

How do you consider the crop to have been, in the last year, in the county of Kent?—Very large in the eastern part, but not so in the west.

What crop do you speak of?—Every sort of corn.

Was it an average crop throughout the whole county?—Beyond that.

Do you think that the farmer, in the carrying on his business, is particularly affected by the tax upon leather?—To the extent it goes he is; but I do not think we feel it much.

Is he particularly affected by the tax upon agricultural horses?—That does not amount to a shilling per acre.

Is he particularly affected by the tax upon salt?—As far as the consumption of himself and his labourers go, but not otherwise, as we do not use it for manure.

Is that considerable?—Yes; but I am not prepared to say to what extent; perhaps about as much as the agricultural horse tax.

Is there any tax that presses particularly upon the agricultural part of the community?—Malt, more than any other.

Can you state to what extent?—No, I cannot.

Can you state how that particularly affects you, in what way?—At present the price of barley being low, we should expect to have our beverage cheaper, but malt is at a very high price.

Does that affect him, in consequence of the great quantity of beer he is obliged to give his labourers?—Yes.

Does it otherwise affect him?—The consumption of beer in my family and the other farms I hold, is about thirty quarters a-year; and it affects me as far as that goes.

Can you state, what quantity of beer you yourself, with reference to the land you hold, give to your labourers?—I should suppose upon 500 acres of arable land, it may amount to six quarters of malt upon a hundred acres.

Do you brew yourself or buy your beer?—Brew it ourselves.

What proportion of the 500 acres is grass, and what proportion arable?—The 500 acres are all arable.

Do you think the price of barley is affected by the tax upon malt?—There is no question about it.

In what way does that operate?—If the malt was cheaper, a great deal more beer would be consumed.

Putting out of consideration all payment of rent, what do you conceive would be a sufficient price for wheat, to remunerate the farmer, paying all taxes, but without any rent?—I should think 54 s. or 55 s.; but that must depend a great deal upon the quality of the land.

In last November, when the ports were open for the importation of oats, what is your opinion as to the quantity there was in the country, and how far that quantity was sufficient to meet the usual demand?—I can only speak locally as to Kent; we had plenty; beyond that I do not know.

Have the poor rates increased in your part of the country?—Very considerably.

Do you think they are still increasing, or is there any appearance of falling?—I think they are increasing; I know of no instance where they are less.

Can you state the amount at any particular period?—No, I cannot.

Within what period do you think they have increased?—In the last three years particularly; but our poor rates are not very high.

How is the demand for labour do you think; does it increase or diminish?—In the adjoining parishes it has been diminished exceedingly; but we have no labourers out of employment where I live.

How do you account for that?—The parish is a very small one; and the farmers think it better to employ them than to turn them off.

Has

(16 March.)

Has any change taken place in the food the poor consume?—Not that I know of. They live much in the same way they used to do?—Yes.

Have you made any observation with regard to the marrying of labourers, whether they marry earlier than they used to do?—I have made no observation upon that.

Have you made no observation upon their receiving relief in consequence of their marrying?—I have heard that, but I do not know it.

Is there a larger quantity of potatoes grown than there was a few years back?—There is a great quantity grown, and they are very cheap.

You do not think that quantity of potatoes grown has produced any alteration in the food of the poor?—No, not in our parish.

Is the 500 acres you farm, your own land?—A considerable part of it is, but the statement I have given in, is from farms in other occupations, where I have a considerable interest.

Do you conceive the tenantry in the county of Kent at this moment are in a state of solvency?—I think it very doubtful.

Can you state, whether the rents have been generally paid, as far as your knowledge goes?—I am sure they have not.

You have stated before, that if they have been, they must have been out of their capital?—Yes, I am sure they must, on arable land.

What is the least sum that farmers in your neighbourhood ought to make by the acre of wheat, in order to obtain a remunerating profit?—16*l.*; I have before observed that ours is good land, and we pay a high price for it; two guineas per acre generally.

What is the largest profit he can expect to make from his wheat crops when he makes that?—In the mode of cultivation which we practise, less than 16*l.* will not be a remuneration.

This year, after paying all the charges upon your land, rent, taxes and tithes, how much profit will be left to you?—I have no expectation of any profit.

Can you state what the loss is likely to be?—Not so much as last year, though the prices are less.

Have you an expectation that you shall be able to save your own this year?—I do not quite expect that, but the loss will not be considerable.

What interest for your capital have you allowed in the calculation of the losses you sustain?—5*l.* per cent only.

Does the expense of your own living enter into the calculation in the account you have laid before the Committee?—Not at all; I have charged every expense by the acre.

You have told the Committee, that the quantity of beer you expend on your labourers, is equal to about six quarters of malt upon an hundred acres?—As near as I can tell.

Has that quantity altered since the additional taxes have been laid on malt?—We do not allow so much beer as we used to do; we used to allow the thrashers small beer, and as much as they chose; but that has since been taken off.

Does that thrasher now procure himself beer from his own funds?—I am afraid he gets but very little.

Did this alteration in your practice take place on the occasion of the additional duty on malt, or before?—Principally on that account.

If there were no tax on malt, do you think there would be a great additional consumption of it?—Unquestionably.

Do you think the wages of labour now, are as adequate to procure to the labourer the same quantity of provisions and comforts he was formerly accustomed to?—They are better off now than they were 8 or 9 years ago; we pay him now 2*s.* a-day, and he then had 3*s.*

And he is better off now with 2*s.* than he was then with 3*s.*—Yes, if he is in constant employ.

Have the different commodities that the labourer uses, besides bread corn, fallen in the same proportion as corn has done?—Not till lately; bacon has this winter followed it.

Have shoes, clothing, or house rent?—No; he has got no advantage on either of these.

Not on clothes?—I do not know as to the articles of clothes.

Did you cease to give your thrashers beer, in consequence of any alteration in the mode of thrashing by the introduction of machines?—We do not use the thrashing machines; the men thrash by the piece, for which they get more than day wages.

Mr.
Jahn Lake.

(16 March.)

When you began farming, did the people get more beer than they do now when in daily work?—I remember the time when every labourer used to brew his peck of malt; but that is done away with now.

Did he use to carry that out with him into the field?—Yes.

That is done away with?—Yes.

How long have you been a farmer?—Ever since 1788.

For the five years previous to 1795, are you aware that the average price of corn was pretty nearly the present price?—I have a statement here of that.

At that time, that price was a remunerating price; you could carry on your farm at that price from 1791 to 1794?—Yes, we were not losing then, 1795 was a very great year.

The Committee wish to know, why the price which was a remunerating price at that time is no longer remunerating?—I have before stated, that we are paying the blacksmith the price of 1801; and that will apply to wheel-wrights, collar-makers, and other things.

Has the tax on agricultural horses been put on since that period?—Yes.

You reckon that at 1 s. per acre?—Hardly so much.

You reckon six quarters of barley necessary for a hundred acres, to give to your labourers?—Yes.

The malt tax has doubled since that time?—It has, I expect.

That makes about 6 l. per hundred acres; that being the case, at how much per acre would you set the increase upon other expenses?—It is not in my power to say; I am not prepared to answer that question.

Cannot you tell how much per cent upon the average your bills have increased since that time?—Since the year 1794, I think I may say, without the fear of contradiction, they have been doubled.

They have come down lately?—Very little.

Farming labour has come down, but not artizans labour?—Yes.

What is the difference in the price of labour, between the year 1794 and the present price?—In 1794, we paid 10 s. a week for labour; we now pay 12 s.

Was he not better off with 10 s. in 1791, considering all things, than he is now?—I think much the same; I do not think there is much difference.

Then the expense of labour on the farm is increased one-sixth?—It has fallen off lately.

With respect to horses, what is the difference in the price of horses in the present time and in 1794?—I should think about the same.

You have stated, that you pay two guineas a year rent; what rent did you pay in 1791?—The statement I have made, is as to the general price of the sort of land I occupy; the land that goes at two guineas now, I should think, in 1791, would be 24 or 25 s. per annum.

What is the mode of taking tithe in Kent?—The tithe is pretty generally taken in kind.

How is the tithe taken generally?—It is valued at the eve of harvest.

You have been in farming business since 1788; according to your knowledge of the country, what has been the increase of rent, upon the average, within that period?—Not quite double.

Nearly double?—Yes, but not quite.

Have rents been lowered much since 1814?—In most instances a little.

How much?—Ten per cent. or thereabouts.

Has there been much capital expended by the landlords or tenants in the erection of houses or fences during that period?—When corn sold dear the tenant laid out a great deal of money in the erection of buildings; and since the landlord has obtained more rent, he has been more liberal.

You have stated, that blacksmiths bills continue at the prices of 1801?—Quite as much.

Do you know the price of iron then, compared with the present price?—No.

You do not know whether it is dearer?—I think much cheaper.

You state the horse tax to be 1 s. per acre, if the lease was renewed since that tax; was not that one of the deductions the farmer would necessarily make from the gross produce, in ascertaining the rent he could afford to pay?—I believe that things of less importance would be mentioned now, but not seven or eight years ago.

Why do you state, they would not have been considered seven years ago?—The farmers were doing exceedingly well eight years ago; and upon 500 acres it would be impossible to say, it was 25 l. too dear or too cheap.

The Committee wish to know, whether seven years ago, farms were not eagerly taken

(16 March.)

taken upon the speculation, that they would continue to rise?—Seven years ago was in the year 1814, when things were declining.

Take it ten years ago?—Four pounds or guineas per quarter for wheat, was the general estimate then.

Taking the average of the years 1811, 1812 and 1813, did you make a profit or not during those years?—Most unquestionably we did.

Take the average of 1814, 1815 and 1816?—In 1814 and 1815 we were losing money; 1816 was a very profitable year in our county; for when the whole kingdom is deluged with wet in the spring, a late harvest is the consequence, and which, invariably, proves a profitable year for us.

Now take the average of 1817, 1818 and 1819?—In 1817 and 1818 we were no losers; in 1819 and 1820 there was a great loss.

Upon the average of those years, 1817, 1818 and 1819, do you think upon the whole there was a profit?—Upon none but the forward best lands.

You have told the Committee that rents have been doubled nearly since 1788?—From 1788 to the present time they might be said to be doubled; in 1794, we were paying 24 s. for what we now pay two guineas.

Would the land in the year 1818 produce a larger quantity of wheat than it would do in the year 1794?—Very considerably so.

Does not that in a great measure account for the increased rise in the rent?—Of course it does; I have before stated, that first the tenant got money, and then the landlord, so that they have both improved the soil.

Are you not in the habit of obtaining the highest prices for the corn you grow?—I should think quite so; ours is nearly all white wheat.

Have you, as a farmer, made any difference in your own mode of living?—None, that I am aware of.

During the time you have been in business?—I think none.

You have stated, that capital had been withdrawn from land; can you explain to the Committee in what way that took place?—From the excessive poverty of the people who have begun business in the last six or seven years.

You mean they were obliged to sell their stock to defray the necessary expenses?—Yes.

Have any lands been thrown out of cultivation, or given up to the landlords?—Not in our part of the country.

Do you consider the poor generally, to be in a better or worse situation than they were?—The employed poor are in a very good state, the unemployed are in a very bad state.

Do you know, whether they consider themselves better off than when the price of corn was higher?—Ours are very well satisfied.

If you talk to a labouring man now about his state at present, and when the price was higher, what is his opinion?—If you talk to a labouring man, he will always condemn the present times; if you talk to him now, he will say, that he had rather the price of bread was three shillings a gallon.

Will you state, what in your opinion was the cause of the present low price of corn?—I have no particular opinion upon that; I think the seasons in a great measure, and the excessive importation two years ago.

What do you mean by the seasons; do you mean the abundant harvests of the two last years?—Yes, for I have never known an instance, but after a wet cold summer we have always had a dearth of corn.

Do you consider the present low price of corn to be owing to two successive abundant harvests, and the excessive importation two years ago?—Yes, I do.

You consider the harvest of last year considerably above the average?—Yes.

Do you think, that the large importation had that effect during the eighteen months after it took place, when the ports were shut?—I think it does at this moment.

You say, that the present low price is owing to favourable seasons, and the importation in February 1819; to what extent does that importation affect the present low price?—I have no knowledge whatever of that; but a great deal of foreign corn has been in the market ever since; and it is said, there is much in the warehouses at the present time.

Were farmers in your part of the country in the habit of having accommodation from country banks?—I fancy some of them were.

Generally?—Not generally; for I think the country banks have been rather cautious.

But they have been in the habit of having accommodation?—Yes.

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

Are they in the habit now?—No.

Not so much as formerly?—Not at all.

Does it consist with your knowledge, that in instances when those very inferior high lands have been brought into tillage, within the last twenty years, that the men who took those farms, were men of very small capital, which they had borrowed?—It has been done in many instances by men of considerable capital.

And in other instances by men of small capital?—Yes; but they have never succeeded.

When you said, that capital was withdrawn from the land, did you mean it was withdrawn from the land, for the purpose of paying those loans from country bankers, or actually lost by the farmers?—It was withdrawn by the farmer's creditors; he was obliged to pay, and consequently, to lessen his stock to make up his payments, some to country banks, and some to other creditors.

Do you not think it has been withdrawn chiefly by those persons who have traded upon borrowed capital?—Very much so it has; no doubt, they have lost their credit and lost their money.

Their creditors became alarmed?—Yes; and a great many farmers have failed.

You do not mean that the individuals have lost their credit; but that from the fall of corn, the lenders of money took alarm and called for payment of the money?—Yes.

Do you imagine that the same thing has occurred to people who have embarked on their own capital; or do you mean, that persons who have embarked on other capital, have suffered more than those who have embarked on their own?—No, certainly not.

Do you not conceive, that persons who have carried on business with capital of their own, have suffered to as great an extent as those who have carried it on on the capital of others?—Yes, no doubt.

Do you attribute the increased quantity of wheat grown per acre upon your land, to the increased quantity of capital employed, or to improvements in agriculture?—One must apply to the other; for without an increase of capital we could not obtain improvements.

Supposing you find out a better manure, or a better manner of cultivating your land, it does not follow that you must employ additional capital; the Committee want to know whether the increased quantity produced, is owing to having employed increased capital and labour, or to improvements in agriculture?—I think the increased capital.

Have any, and what remedies, presented themselves to your mind to cure the distresses of the agriculturists?—I am so little acquainted with the political nature of it, that I have not given it a thought, well knowing it is in better hands.

You have said, that you are occasionally employed as a surveyor?—Yes.

Supposing a farm of fair average land, at two guineas an acre, to be let in 1814, upon a seven years lease, and at a fair rent; that farm of course would be out of lease at Michaelmas next; if you were called upon to value that farm, what abatement should you think it fair to make upon another term of seven years?—That is so speculative I can hardly answer it; about twenty-eight shillings or thirty shillings at most.

With reference to what price of corn do you give that answer?—With an expectation that, instead of receiving eighty shillings for wheat, I should suppose seventy-four; for he must get 74 s. for wheat, to pay 30 s. per acre.

Have you any doubt, in point of fact, that, if that land which is now rented at two guineas an acre, was offered at 30 s. next Michaelmas, that a good tenant would be found to take it at that price?—We hardly know who are good tenants, for a great many people who have taken them, cannot hold them.

Have you any doubt that it would be let at that rent?—I think it would let at that, for all are eager to get the good lands.

Thirty shillings would be an increase upon the rent of 1794; to what circumstance do you ascribe the capability of that land bearing such an increase?—It is merely speculative; a great many have small capitals, and others have been brought up to the business, that want employment.

Do you think it would pay at 30 s. an acre, if corn was much below 70 s.—I know it would not pay.

Is not the state of the market at present so extremely uncertain, that you have a very great difficulty in finding a basis whereon to found the value of the land?—It is all speculation.

To what do you attribute that uncertainty?—It is far beyond my knowledge.

Are

Are you of opinion, that, if there was only a fair average crop next year, or a wet summer, that the prices would rise?—With a wet summer, the prices would rise.

With a fair average crop, without a wet summer, with the crop well got in, what would you say?—I see no chance of its rising.

You have stated, that this year it was above an average crop?—Yes; but I am confining myself to the eastern part of the county of Kent.

Does the evidence you have been giving, as to the state of agriculture, confine itself to the eastern part of the county of Kent?—Yes.

Do you know any thing of any other parts of the kingdom?—I only saw Essex last year.

Was there a good crop in Essex?—There was the appearance of a very abundant crop in June; but I have since heard the wheats were blighted.

Have you a general knowledge of the harvests throughout the county of Kent?—As much as any body, I think.

Have you a general knowledge that it was a good crop throughout Kent?—Yes.

You have been speaking generally of the eastern division of the county of Kent?—Yes.

Have you any knowledge of the western?—I have some knowledge of it; and they were mildewed there; in the eastern we had but very little mildew.

Was it an average crop there?—No, I should think not.

Does a greater degree of distress prevail in the western than in the Eastern division of Kent?—Yes, I think it does.

Mr.
John Lake.

(16 March.)

Luna, 19^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Samuel Capper*;

Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you reside?—At Bristol; I am a hosier and glover.

Are you an owner of land?—No; I was late in the occupation of land in the county of Wilts.

How long since?—I quitted it the tenth month, or October 1820.

Will you have the goodness to state, whether you have a statement drawn up, by which you can show to the Committee, any thing regarding the present depressed state of agriculture?—I have.

In that statement, is it the statement of your own farm under your own observation?—Yes, it is.

And was in your occupation up to the end of 1820?—Yes.

For how many years previous?—Eight years.

Mr.
Samuel Capper.

(19 March.)

[*The witness delivered it in; and it was read, as follows:*]

Mr.
Samuel Capper.

POTTERNE MANOR.—A Digested Account of the Occupation of Potterne Manor Farm, late in the hands of Samuel Capper.

(19 March.)

	1813:	1814:	1815:	1816:	1817:
EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Rent - - -	607 — —	607 — —	607 — —	607 — —	607 — —
Tithe - - -	19 8 9	19 8 9	19 8 9	19 8 9	19 8 9
Horse Tax - -	12 10 —	10 15 —	10 15 —	10 15 —	11 12 6
Insurance - -	4 1 —	4 1 —	4 1 —	4 10 —	4 10 —
Poor's Rate - -	94 5 —	54 5 —	58 2 6	56 16 4½	99 9 7½
Way Rate - -	10 16 —	13 11 5	15 10 —	13 11 5	59 14 11
Church Rate - -	— — —	— — —	3 17 —	— — —	— — —
Composition Roads -	7 15 —	7 15 —	7 — —	7 — —	6 8 9
Property Tax - -	15 3 9	30 7 6	46 — 3	46 — 3	38 10 —
Seed - - -	273 12 9	147 15 2	109 2 3	82 11 3	137 4 6
Markets, Fairs, &c. -	12 1 11	15 8 11	18 11 —	18 19 4	23 4 1
Interest on Capital -	212 10 —	250 — —	250 — —	250 — —	225 — —
Labour - - -	458 10 —	523 18 3	529 13 5	537 18 10	608 7 1
Sheep Keep, &c. -	239 8 6	115 9 6	101 3 3	112 19 —	144 14 6
Tradesmen's Bills -	88 9 3	123 14 —	70 — 8	73 12 2	92 17 4
Implements - -	43 8 10	78 6 2	3 13 6	21 4 —	49 13 7
Manure - - -	92 13 6	33 7 2	36 15 7	38 19 10	25 17 1
Lease - - -	15 16 8	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
£.	2,207 11 2	2,035 2 10	1,890 14 2	1,901 6 2½	2,153 12 8½
PRODUCE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Wheat - - -	245 19 —	889 7 4	813 12 6	786 2 9	1,652 2 —
Other Corn, &c. -	— — —	284 10 6	377 13 9	404 15 9	554 5 —
Wood - - -	38 — 7	187 — —	93 18 —	115 16 7	85 5 6
Live Stock - -	628 8 5	166 — —	46 5 —	180 13 9	587 5 3
Pigs, Fowls, &c. -	— — —	5 6 6	91 11 3	68 14 6	106 15 —
Straw - - -	— — —	31 — —	57 12 —	51 9 —	32 2 —
Flax and Clover Seed	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Wheat unsold - -	250 qrs. at 52s.	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Other Corn d° - -	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Flax d° - - -	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
State of Land - -	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
£.	912 8 —	1,563 4 4	1,480 12 6	1,607 12 11	3,017 14 —

	1818:	1819:	1820:	TOTAL.	Annual Average.
EXPENDITURE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>continued.</i>					
Rent - - -	607 — —	607 — —	607 — —	4,856 — —	607 — —
Tithe - - -	19 8 9	19 8 9	12 4 6	148 5 9	18 10 8½
Horse Tax - -	12 10 —	12 10 —	12 10 —	93 17 6	11 14 8½
Insurance - -	4 10 —	4 10 —	4 10 —	34 13 —	4 6 6½
Poor's Rate - -	72 5 6	54 4 1½	63 4 9½	552 12 11	69 1 7½
Way Rate - -	— — —	9 — 8	13 12 5½	135 17 1½	16 17 8½
Church Rate - -	— — —	— — —	— — —	3 17 —	— 9 7½
Composition Roads -	6 8 9	6 8 9	5 — —	53 16 3	6 14 6½
Property Tax - -	— — —	— — —	— — —	176 1 9	12 — 3
Seed - - -	273 6 —	135 10 6	64 1 5	1,223 3 10	152 17 11½
Markets, Fairs, &c. -	20 14 5	15 19 8	35 13 3	160 12 7	20 1 8
Interest on Capital -	207 10 —	207 10 —	185 — —	1,787 10 —	223 8 9
Labour - - -	624 8 —	544 7 10	502 10 11½	4,329 14 4½	541 4 3½
Sheep Keep, &c. -	124 7 7	172 19 3	59 2 8	1,070 4 3	133 18 6½
Tradesmen's Bills -	142 12 —	68 9 8	68 5 6	728 — 7	91 — 1
Implements - -	13 13 —	6 19 —	3 9 4	220 7 5	27 10 11
Manure - - -	44 17 9	36 1 7	62 9 4	371 1 10	46 7 8½
Lease - - -	— — —	— — —	— — —	15 16 8	1 19 7
£.	2,173 11 9	1,900 19 9½	1,698 14 2½	15,961 12 10	1,995 5 2½
PRODUCE:	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>continued.</i>					
Wheat - - -	1,146 11 9	727 15 6	749 1 —	7,010 11 10	876 6 8
Other Corn, &c. -	311 19 —	500 18 6	261 4 —	2,695 6 6	336 18 4
Wood - - -	108 14 10	104 11 9	69 18 1	803 5 4	100 8 2
Live Stock - -	320 — —	446 3 1	799 8 8	3,174 3 6	396 18 2
Pigs, Fowls, &c. -	111 11 2	14 14 7	23 18 10	422 11 10	52 16 8½
Straw - - -	33 6 —	15 9 6	20 3 6	241 2 —	30 2 9
Flax and Clover Seed	63 13 4	22 8 6	135 18 11	221 10 9	27 8 10
Wheat unsold - -	— — —	— — —	650 — —	650 — —	— — —
Other Corn d° - -	— — —	— — —	196 10 —	196 10 —	— — —
Flax d° - - -	— — —	— — —	40 — —	40 — —	— — —
State of Land - -	— — —	— — —	150 — —	150 — —	— — —
£.	2,095 16 1	1,832 1 5	3,095 12 4	15,605 1 9	— — —

POTTERNE MANOR—continued.

(19 March.)

	Sacks of Wheat.			£.	s.	d.	Acres.	Wheat sown.	Sacks.
1813	-	101	at 48/8	-	245	15	4		
1814	-	456	at 39/	-	889	4	—	584 at 7 sacks each	4,088
1815	-	495	at 32/11	-	813	13	7		
1816	-	462	at 33/0½	-	786	7	3		
1817	-	614	at 53/9½	-	1,652	8	8		
1818	-	569	at 40/3½	-	1,146	5	11		
1819	-	387	at 37/7	-	727	4	7	Total Expenditure	15,961 12 10
1820	-	504	at 29/9	-	749	14	—	Total Produce	15,605 1 9
Unsold	-	500	at 26/	-	650	—	—	Loss	£. 356 11 1
		4,088							

The farm was supposed to be taken cheap, and is now let for £.500 per annum; 369 acres, about 100 pasture, 40 wood, the rest arable. In 1818, some overtures were made for the lease being prolonged, for several years, at £.507; but the matter going on for two years, the tenant, from the depression, quitted the farm.

The increased produce, at the termination of the year 1820, is occasioned by the reserve made in the year 1813.

To view correctly the loss sustained we must say actual deficiency - - - 356 11 1
Maintenance of the Family, eight years, at £.500 - - - - - 4,000 — —

Interest of Capital being yearly made up, the actual sum stated would be much increased, if the sum started with, and the advances made to keep up the Capital were charged with interest to the end of the lease.

It will be observed, that the tenant never was cramped for capital, as is proved by the manner in which the produce was disposed of, or retained.

There was a loss of twenty-five per cent full on the Stock, when disposed of - 500 — —
£. 4,856 11 1

Year 1813, say £. 2,000. Year 1820, £. 1,500.

The tenant received from the liberality of the landlord £.879. 14s. an abatement of rent.

The management of the farm may be inferred by the circumstances; of the average produce of wheat; the sum awarded by indifferent persons for the state of the land, at his going off; and the landlord allowing the greater part of the sum alluded to at the end of the term.

You occupied this farm in the years 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819, and 1820?—Yes.

Can you give the Committee an account of what the proportion of your receipts and expenditure were in the year 1813 and the year 1820?—It is contained in that paper.

The interest upon your capital in the year 1813, is 212l. 10s.; in 1814, 250l.; but in the year 1820 it was reduced to 185l.; did this diminution in the amount of interest arise from your employing less capital on your farm, in the year 1820, than at the former period?—Not altogether.

How do you account for the difference?—The succeeding tenant commenced part of the occupation at Midsummer, 1819, and of course liberated part of my capital; that is the principal reason.

Was the actual value of your capital, at the time of your quitting the farm, less or greater, than at the period of 1813?—Less, considerably.

Then you do not charge the interest on the actual value which you had upon the farm, according to the valuation at the time, but according to the valuation in the year 1813?—No; there is an observation on the back of that paper, that will explain that.

When you quitted this farm, and the new tenant came in, had you as much cattle and other stock, without regarding its value, as you had in the year 1813?—Rather more I think; certainly not less.

Why did you give up the farm?—Because I found so serious a loss accruing from the occupation of it.

What do you state your loss at, the last year of your occupying?—As the greater part of the produce is still unsold, I cannot exactly say.

Can you calculate pretty nearly, what the produce of that corn will be, at the present prices?—No, I cannot.

You had rather more stock when you quitted this farm, although you had supported your family from the produce, during the period of eight years?—There is no part of the expenses of supporting the family, included in this account.

Mr.
Samuel Capper.

(19 March.)

Did you support your family out of the produce of this farm, between the year 1813, and the year 1820?—No.

Did any part of the produce of this farm, go to the maintenance of your family?—None, but what an equivalent was given for.

In that account, have you estimated the value of all that you took off the farm, for such purposes?—Yes.

And the loss is over and above that?—Yes, it is.

In the first column of this account, the expenditure is 2,207 *l.* 11 *s.* 2 *d.* and the value of the produce sold, is only 912 *l.* 8 *s.* how comes it that the produce is so low, compared with the expenditure?—It arises from the circumstance, that the greater part of the produce was sold in the succeeding year.

Then to make this account complete, the Committee ought to have the value of the produce sold in the year after, 1820?—On looking at the account, the Committee will see the whole of the produce estimated and put down in the last column for 1820.

But which is not added up here?—Yes, it is.

Are you aware that the agriculturists of the county of Wilts, in the neighbourhood you have been farming, are in general in a state of distress?—I have no doubt on the subject; I have heard many complain.

Is there any particular cause, to which you attribute the distress of agriculturists in your part of the county of Wilts?—I do not conceive the county of Wilts to be in greater distress than any other county; but rather otherwise.

Is there any particular cause for the distress prevalent in the county of Wilts, than is prevailing in other parts?—No; excepting that they are more generally employed in raising corn.

Are the labourers much out of employment, in that county?—Very much.

When you talk of labourers being out of employment, do you allude to agricultural or manufacturing?—Agricultural; I know little about the manufacturing districts.

Have the wages of agricultural labourers been reduced; and at what period?—Nearly one fifth; it did not generally take place at the same period; but in the parish in which I live, there have been two reductions; one, I think, in 1817, and the other in 1819.

To what cause do you attribute the labourers being much out of employment?—The principal cause is the inability of the farmers to pay them their wages.

Are the poor rates extremely oppressive, in the county of Wilts, where you reside?—It will be seen by the statement, they began to advance rapidly after the year 1816.

In what way is relief administered to the poor; by a general scale according to the number of children; or what other rule?—By a scale of relief according to the number of children, and the price of bread.

When you first began business, was beer in common use among the labouring poor; were they in the daily habit of drinking it; did it form part of their usual diet?—Pretty generally I think.

Is that the case now?—I do not know of any alteration; they were allowed it by their employers, and are so still.

Is that during the whole of the year, or only during certain periods?—To some classes of the workmen; as the thrashers and ploughmen during the whole of the year; to the others only during harvest.

Do the lower classes in your county, marry earlier than they formerly did?—I have no doubt but they do.

Can you state any reason, according to your opinion, for that?—I have known several marry for the purpose of obtaining higher wages.

Has it come to your knowledge, that early marriages have been contracted with a view to receiving relief from the poor rate?—No, because they do not receive additional relief from the poor rate till after they have several children; their wages would increase immediately.

Do you find any inconvenience in your county, from the circumstance of bricklayers and carpenters, and men of that description returning to their parishes in the winter, when they can find no work, having been employed in full work during the summer in their respective trades?—Not from that class of labourers; but from men who go out during the summer to work at hoeing and other advantageous employments, we do find considerable inconvenience.

Are not those men of whom you speak, as devoting themselves to hoeing at particular periods of the year, capable of performing every species of agricultural labour?—Most of them, I think it may be said.

What

What was the amount of your capital in 1813, when you took this farm?—It is stated there; that is the interest of the actual money brought into employment.

At what rate of interest?—Five per cent.

You have stated also, in another part, the maintenance of the family for eight years at 500 *l.* per year; did you expect when you took that farm, you should receive 5 per cent for the interest of your capital, and be able to live at the rate of 500 *l.* a year from the proceeds?—I knew that the farm had produced that for many years preceeding.

How do you account for a man's wages increasing immediately on his marriage; can his master have any interest in paying him more?—He can demand more, because he has more to maintain, and his scale of relief (an absurd principle) rises.

Then it is from the poor rates his increased allowance must come?—The fact is this, it is the interest of the farmer to employ those men who have the largest families, and so in gradation, leaving out of employment those who are single, if there is not employment for the whole; and the remainder are employed by the surveyors of the highways at the justices allowance.

Does the mere circumstance of a man, becoming a married man, enable him immediately to get greater wages?—Yes; because the parish officer must give him that which is adequate to the justices allowance for his labour; I would add, the parish being obliged to maintain all its labourers, provides those who are not otherwise employed, with labour at the lowest rate, paid out of the way rate.

Have any select vestries been appointed in your neighbourhood?—Not in the parish I lived in.

Have labourers become greater consumers of potatoes, than in former times?—I think not; for this reason, the masters are in the habit of supplying the labourers with wheat of inferior quality, at a very low price; the best wheat being at a very low price, enables the labourers to supply themselves with wheat instead of potatoes.

How many years out of the seven years you farmed that land, did you make a profit upon the concern?—I cannot say positively; but I think only the three first.

It appears, from that account, that the expenditure in 1813, was 2,207 *l.* and the receipts 900 and odd pounds; in what way did you make a profit in that year?—In making the statement of the account at the close of the year, I first set down all I was indebted for interest, borrowed capital, &c.; on the opposite side, are the assets, the balance of which left a tolerable profit; the assets do not appear here.

In the account of the first year, the assets do not appear to be equal to the expenditure?—This account is only of the receipts in the course of that year; consequently the assets do not appear on this account, it would have been excessively complicated to make out the account on the other principle, on account of the great variation in the valuation of agricultural produce.

From the inspection of that account, it is impossible to ascertain whether there was a loss or gain for any particular year?—Yes, it is. The object of this statement is to show, that by the occupation of the farm for eight years, there was a total loss of 4,000 *l.*

How much ought you to have received for a bushel of wheat, to pay your way on the farm you have lately occupied?—The average price, I believe, at which I sold my wheat was 9 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a bushel; and I find, if I had sold it for 12 *s.* and other corn in proportion, the concern would have paid.

Is it the practice in Wiltshire for farmers to lodge their servants in the house?—It is not the general practice, except in those villages very remote from towns.

Was that ever the practice in your parish?—Never, in that parish.

What was the usual rate of labour per day, you paid during the occupation of that farm?—From 1 *s.* 6 *d.* to 1 *s.* 9 *d.*

Is it the same now in that part of the country?—It is now 1 *s.* 5 *d.* The average is remarkably high, of 9 *s.* 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* for wheat, it is much above what other farms could have produced.

That is not the general average of the county?—No; I am anxious to guard the Committee against that misapprehension. I apprehend, there are few farms that could have produced so high an average.

What is the quantity of flour consumed by labourers, per day or week?—I cannot tell.

Are there many farms untenanted, or likely to become so?—Not in the parish in which I live.

Do you think less or more corn is produced in your parish now than before?—

Mr.
Samuel Capper.

(19 March.)

I observe, that the land tenanted by small farmers, is not so well managed as formerly, consequently less is produced.

Should you state the average crop of wheat last year, to be over or under the usual average of produce?—Over the usual average.

Speaking of Wiltshire generally, should you state that to be the case?—It is very difficult to answer that, I know one or two districts where it was not over, and one or two where it was under; but if I was to venture an opinion, I should think certainly rather above.

You have stated, you are a hosier and glover at Bristol, has the demand for those articles increased or decreased within these two years?—I cannot correctly reply, I only entered into business three or four months ago.

Is the trade good at this moment?—It is thought particularly dull.

Have the prices of those articles fallen much?—Very much indeed; there has been, within a week or two, a little revival in the prices of cotton goods.

Have the wages of workmen in those articles, lowered much in two years?—Not being a manufacturer, I cannot speak to that.

Has there been any general deduction in the articles of husbandry lately, as to their price?—I think not in iron, leather or wood, to the best of my recollection.

Then you see no possibility of reducing your necessary expenses, such as the bills of the wheelwrights, blacksmiths, collar-makers, and so forth; but, that all those burdens must fall upon the arable farmer, as heavy as they have for some years past?—Yes, I see no other prospect.

Is not the price of many manufactured articles much lessened?—I do not know of any other than iron; and that some years ago.

Has it not on leather?—There is no reduction, that I know of, in the price of harness, or very little.

As to the raw materials?—I cannot tell.

If the raw materials are fallen in value, do not you think that there is a great probability of eventual relief to the consumer?—On referring to the statement, the Committee will see, that, if the whole amount expended in those articles were taken off, the relief would not be very material.

It appearing, by the statement you have given in, that, in the latter years of the occupation of your farm, the poor rates decreased, notwithstanding the labourers were out of employment; to what cause do you attribute the decrease of the rates?—There are in the parish about 30 acres of commonable land, which have been divided into allotments of about half an acre each, and those allotments let at a low rent to labourers, upon the condition of their not applying for parochial relief while they hold them. The parish has between 60 and 70 of those tenants.

At what period was the land so let out to the poor first?—About a year and nine months ago, I think; I am not quite certain.

Is this land likely to continue beneficial to the parish?—I apprehend it will be so to the parish.

Mr. John Medows Rodwell; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
J. M. Rodwell.

(19 March.)

YOU are a farmer?—Yes.

Residing where?—At Barham, in Suffolk

Have you any statement to give in, to show the Committee the present distresses under which the agriculturists labour?—I have.

[The witness produced and delivered in the following paper, which was read:]

OUTGOINGS upon a Farm consisting of 280 Acres of Arable Land, 27 of Mead, 22 of Pasture, and 34 of Wood Land, a single Horse Chaise, 2 Riding Horses, and 11 Cart Horses, to pay Taxes for, besides Windows:

Years ending		Rent.	Tithe.	Rates.			Taxes.			Labour.			Blacksmith.			Collar Maker.		
		£.	£.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Michaelmas	1817	500	75	73	5	6	40	5	—	505	9	6	23	1	1	4	16	—
—	1818	500	75	61	2	2	34	16	9	513	3	3	28	18	6	7	7	8
—	1819	500	75	60	8	—	40	2	6	442	10	7	25	10	1	5	11	6
—	1820	500	75	53	1	8	36	—	10	421	11	5	24	18	6	6	15	6

OUTGOINGS—continued.

Mr.
J. M. Rodwell,

(19 March.)

Years ending	Wheelwright.			Seed.			Team.			Interest.			Total.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Michaelmas 1817	20	14	7	176	17	6	200	4	—	300	—	—	1,919	11	2
— 1818	16	—	10	149	17	10	171	12	—	270	—	—	1,827	19	—
— 1819	6	13	10	208	2	6	257	8	—	243	—	—	1,864	17	3
— 1820	16	19	4	185	1	—	164	9	—	210	7	—	1,703	4	3

PRODUCE:

Years ending	Corn.			Turnips.			Layers.			Mead, Pasture, and Wood.			Total.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Michaelmas 1817	2,228	3	11	98	12	—	174	—	—	126	—	—	2,656	15	1
— 1818	1,398	3	3	47	15	—	276	8	—	126	—	—	1,848	6	3
— 1819	1,444	1	10	131	5	—	106	—	—	126	—	—	1,807	6	10
— 1820	-	-	-	119	12	6	168	4	—	126	—	—	—	—	—

	£.	s.	d.
1817 - - - Produce - - -	2,656	15	1
Expences - - -	1,919	11	2
Profit - - -	£. 737	3	11
1818 - - - Produce - - -	1,848	6	3
Expences - - -	1,827	19	—
Profit - - -	£. 20	7	3
1819 - - - Expenses - - -	1,864	7	3
Produce - - -	1,807	6	10
Loss - - -	£. 57	—	5

Depreciated Capital
in three years - - } £. 1,031

It appears by this paper that 300*l.* is allowed as 10 per cent interest for 3,000*l.*?
—Yes.

If you were to go out of business, you would go with 3,000*l.* the interest of that would produce 150*l.*; but as it appears that you get 300*l.* do you consider that a fair profit?—I consider 5 per cent for wear and tear; and 5 per cent for the interest of capital.

If the depreciation of stock is allowed for, does not that include the charge of wear and tear?—No; if at Michaelmas 1817, my stock had been sold off, I consider it would have fetched three thousand pounds; and supposing the stock to have been kept up, horses and implements in an equal state of goodness, from the depreciation of the times, I think in the three years they would have sold for thirty per cent less.

In making up your estimate of profit and loss, did you value your stock, or only take the assets the produce of the year?—I only took the produce of the year.

So that your account has no reference to the value of your stock, at the moment when you took the account?—I have stated the depreciation of the capital at 10 per cent each year.

Five per cent is the loss of the depreciation of your stock?—No, ten per cent I consider it; I do not know that I can explain myself better than by saying, if my capital was 3,000*l.* at Michaelmas 1817, supposing it to be equally good at Michaelmas 1820, it would have sold for thirty per cent less, from the depreciation of the times.

Is land in general about you, according to your own observation, improved or not?—It has been very much improved, within a few years.

Within the last two years, has it been going backwards or not?—Most unquestionably going backward.

Can you tell us, of your own knowledge, how rents in general are paid in your part of the country?—I am able to state, in many instances, that the rents are very backward. I am authorized to make use of a gentleman's name, who lives in my parish, Sir William Middleton, who permitted me to say, that many of his rents are unpaid

Mr.
J. M. Rodwell.

(19 March.)

to Michaelmas 1819; some of those that have paid, have requested to have the money lent them to carry on their business.

Do you know, of your own knowledge, several other instances of the same kind, that you are not authorized to mention the name?—Yes, I have the honor of being employed by several gentlemen; I have not asked their permission, but I know the rents to be unpaid to Michaelmas 1819; and that the stock upon their farms, which they are by their leases compelled to keep, is very much diminished: in one instance, where the person is under an engagement to keep ten score sheep, he has not thirty pounds worth of stock upon his farm, in consequence of which, supposing corn to be at the same price it was seven years ago, I consider the land so much depreciated, that it would not let for any thing near the same money that it did then; and I know of several farms of my own knowledge, in the same state.

Have you observed in the farm-yards, in your part of the country, whether there are as many bullocks put up to fatten upon corn, and in good style, as there used to be?—I think I may venture to say, there is not a tenth part; within a few years there was scarcely a farmer in the neighbourhood, that had not his yard filled with beasts fattening upon corn or oil cake; at the present time, it is very difficult to meet with such a thing.

What sort of a crop of turnips had you last year?—I think very good.

Was that the case generally?—Yes, I think that turnips in our neighbourhood were pretty good.

Will you state how the tradesmen's bills are paid; whether they are well or ill paid?—Ill paid; I have been applied to by most of my tradesmen to pay them money before it was due to them; the reason they have assigned is, that they cannot get their bills paid by the farmers.

The Committee see by your statement, that your taxes appear to have been diminished lately, how does that happen?—From my being under the necessity of retrenching; I have laid by my chaise, and keep only one riding horse instead of two.

State to the Committee, whether the produce of your farm, from which you have taken your calculation, is not particularly increased, by having two off-hand farms contiguous to it?—I consider it is materially increased.

You apply part of the manure that comes from those farms to it?—Yes, by sheep; I keep a large quantity of sheep for my occupation.

You can keep by those means, a greater stock of sheep, and farm this farm better?—Yes, much better.

From your observation in the neighbourhood, has the tillage deteriorated in the last two years?—Most certainly.

Is there as much green crop sown as there used to be?—I think there is; the tenants are generally confined by their leases to their rotation of crops.

But their mode of managing those crops is inferior?—Yes.

Has there been any change in the rate of wages?—Yes; I can speak for myself; about four years ago, I was paying two shillings a day; now, I am paying eighteen pence; but I wish to state, I have very few hands working by the day; I conceive my labourers are earning, and have been through the winter, from ten to twelve shillings a week.

In that case, they work more hours, when working for themselves, than when working for you?—Yes; and much harder.

Is not the quantity of labour employed by farmers, in general less than what it was some years ago?—Very much diminished.

Have you had an opportunity of forming a judgment of the present state of the labouring poor, with what it was five years ago?—I think many of them are much worse; those men who are good workmen, and in regular employment, I do not conceive are much worse; I think they are better; but a great number of hands, in consequence of the times, are thrown out of employment and maintained by the parish at a very small pittance indeed; perhaps I could state a case which would make it appear very plain; I happen to be acting as a director in the house of industry, I am in an incorporated hundred, and this is my month for acting as a director; at the house of industry, the average number of paupers from January 1820 to January 1821, in the house, was 380; at the present moment there are 480; I think till within a few years the number was under 200; it is a rule we adopt, when a young unmarried man is out of work, to relieve him by taking him into the house.

Does it fall within your knowledge, whether there is any alteration in the food of the labouring classes?—I think not.

Does

(19 March.)

Does the consumption of potatoes, increase among them?—I think not; they always use a great quantity.

Do they substitute it for wheat?—I think they use a smaller quantity of wheat.

Was the harvest last year an average crop?—In wheat, last year, per acre, much beneath an average crop; but if I am asked as to the general produce of the country, I should say the produce of my neighbourhood in wheat, is this year increased, in consequence of the improvements that took place upon land within a few years when corn was dear, and it's being sown upon a great deal of poor land that never used to be sown with wheat; I can state that of the 280 acres of arable land I occupy, there are 100 which, till within a few years, were never sown with wheat at all.

Why should that poor land give a better produce than better land?—I have not said it does; I did not mean to say that.

You conceive last year was not an average crop?—Not per acre; but there were a greater number of acres sown.

To what do you attribute the failure of rent; the increase of outgoings or the want of a sufficient remunerating price?—Very materially to the increase of outgoings, and certainly to a depreciation of price.

During the four years to which this account refers, did the quantity of corn and other produce obtained from your farm, differ much in quantity from year to year?—I believe I can answer that, by referring to another paper I have in my hand, of the quantity of wheat grown per acre for upwards of 20 years. In the last four years, my crop has exceeded the average of my usual growth.

State the quantity of each year?—In the year 1817, I had 3 quarters 6 bushels an acre of wheat; in 1818, three quarters an acre, and the same in 1819; my crop of 1820 is not thrashed.

Had you the same quantity of acres each year?—As nearly as may be.

Your original capital was 3,000*l.*; if you were to dispose of your stock, what would you now receive?—I should think about 2,000*l.*

Have you ever added any capital to the original capital of 3,000*l.*?—I am not able to answer that precisely, because I sometimes had more stock upon my farm than at other times. In an abundant year, when we have a great deal of straw and a good crop of turnips, I am under the necessity of having more bullocks to tread it and make my muck, than when we have a small quantity of straw and a bad crop of turnips.

You have stated, in the account you have delivered in, that you have allowed 300*l.* for the depreciation of capital in one year, 270*l.* another, 243*l.* another, and 219*l.* for the fourth year?—Yes.

These items make 1,032*l.*?—Yes.

Have you charged for the wear and tear of capital?—Yes.

Which amounts to 512*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes; in four years.

According to the paper you have delivered in, during the years of 1817, 1818 and 1819, you made a clear profit upon your farm, after charging 10 per cent for interest upon your capital?—Without making any deduction for housekeeping or depreciation of capital.

In the year 1817, you made 737*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* over and above all charges of interest upon your capital of 10 per cent.; in 1818, you made 20*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*; and in 1819, you sustained a loss of 57*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*—I made a profit, upon the average, of 258*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*

How long have you occupied this farm?—From the year 1796.

Was it upon a lease?—Yes.

For how many years?—The first was 15.

From 1796 to 1811?—Yes.

At what rent?—300*l.* a year.

At the expiration of the lease in 1811, did you take a fresh lease?—Yes.

For what term?—Eleven years.

At what rent?—500*l.*

That lease will expire next year?—Next Michaelmas twelvemonth.

What is the amount in which the rent ought to be diminished, from the change of the times?—25 per cent.

You have stated, that in your neighbourhood there are farms, of which the rents have not been paid since Michaelmas?—The rent to Michaelmas 1819 is not paid.

They are upwards of two years in arrears?—Yes.

Do you happen to know, when the rents of those farms were raised?—No, I do not.

Do you suppose an abatement of 25 per cent upon those farms, would admit of their being continued?—Not by the present tenants.

Mr.
J. M. Rodwell.
(19 March.)

Do you think other tenants would be found for them?—Yes; I think, at that abatement.

Good, responsible tenants?—Yes; they are under very good landlords, and in very good situations.

Under the present price of wheat?—Yes, under the present corn bill.

Suppose there was an abatement of 25 per cent in rent, rates, tithes, direct and indirect taxes, and the burdens of the poor, at what price per quarter could you afford to grow your wheat, to have a fair profit?—At 60 s. per quarter.

[The Witness delivered in the following paper, which was read:]

280 Acres Arable, 27 Meadow, 22 Pasture, and 34 Wood Land.

	Rent.	Tithes.	Rates.	Taxes.	Wheat per Coomb.	Coombs per Acre.	Amount of Wheat per Acre.
	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Co. Bush.	£. s. d.
1798 - - -	300	52 17 4	23 13 4	8 2 2	1 5 1	8. 0.	10 8 —
1799 - - -	300	52 17 4	20 11 6	9 4 9	2 10 10	4. 2.	11 8 9
1800 - - -	300	52 17 4	36 1 10	12 — 8	3 8 —	4. 3.	16 3 —
1801 - - -	300	52 17 4	55 6 5	12 1 10	1 18 7	5. 2.	10 2 2
1802 - - -	300	54 17 4	51 12 9	17 14 —	1 8 5	6. 2.	9 4 8
1803 - - -	300	52 17 4	27 8 9	19 15 —	1 9 6	4. 3.	7 — 1
1804 - - -	300	52 17 4	29 3 1	36 2 6	2 2 5	3. 1.	6 17 10
1805 - - -	300	52 17 4	35 15 11	- - -	1 18 —	6. 0.	11 8 —
1806 - - -	300	52 17 4	30 6 4	39 4 10	1 18 3	7. 1.	13 17 3
1807 - - -	300	52 17 4	27 13 1	- - -	1 15 9	6. 2.	11 12 4
1808 - - -	300	52 17 4	27 16 2	- - -	2 5 —	8. 0.	18 — —
1809 - - -	300	75 — —	27 10 3	52 13 10	2 15 2	5. 1.	14 9 7
1810 - - -	300	75 — —	36 13 8	53 10 10	2 9 10	6. 2.	16 3 11
1811 - - -	300	75 — —	37 14 6	53 10 10	2 18 —	4. 2.	13 1 —
1812 - - -	500	75 — —	27 3 1	56 11 4	2 16 —	7. 2.	21 — —
1813 - - -	500	90 — —	63 12 10	61 1 10	1 18 3	9. 0.	17 4 3
1814 - - -	500	90 — —	48 17 —	58 14 2	1 11 9	6. 1.	9 7 6
1815 - - -	500	72 — —	39 1 9	60 6 1	1 15 10	5. 0.	8 19 2
1816 - - -	500	72 — —	38 15 1	64 11 —	2 18 2	6. 2½.	19 5 4
1817 - - -	500	72 — —	66 17 2	32 10 3	2 2 6	7. 2½.	16 6 9
1818 - - -	500	75 — —	68 8 8	32 10 3	1 18 —	6. 0.	11 8 —
1819 - - -	500	75 — —	54 16 6	40 — —	1 16 —	6. 0¼.	10 18 —
1820 - - -	500	75 — —	50 13 8	—	—	—	—

Average price of four years, }
from 1817 to 1820 - - } £. 1. 16. 1.

D^o - - - for three years }
from 1818 to 1820 - - } £. 1. 14. 0.

£. s. d.
350 17 8
450 2 11
505 9 6
513 3 3
442 10 7
421 11 5

At the present price of cattle and other farming stock, is the capital of 2,000 l. as efficient to a proper cultivation of such a farm as your's, as 3,000 l. was in 1817?—Fully so.

You have stated, that the harvest of last year had been deficient?—Yes; per acre.

As far as your observation and knowledge goes, do you not conceive the number of acres under the cultivation of wheat, has been very greatly increased of late?—Very much so; in my own instance of 280 acres of ploughed land in my own occupation, 100 acres were never known to be sown with wheat till I sowed it.

When did you sow that?—Within a few years.

Within how many years?—Ten or twelve years.

Is there any diminution in the land usually cultivated for barley?—No.

Is

Is there the same quantity of land under barley course that there used to be?—Not quite; because some land that comes in course for barley, is frequently sown with wheat.

Mr.
Alderman Rothwell.

(19 March.)

Are you of opinion, that the comparative high price of stock, as compared with wheat, in the years 1818 and 1819, arose in part from the increased price of wheat?—I think so.

And comparative scarcity of stock?—Yes.

You first took your farm in 1796, for 15 years?—Yes.

Do you know what the rent was prior to 1796?—In fact it was in the hands of two proprietors; one occupied it and paid half the rent, being 80*l.* to the other. I think it was about 160 *l.* a year. I do not speak positively to that.

Mr. Alderman Rothwell; Called in; and Examined.

WHAT business do you carry on?—The wholesale linen and cotton trade.

Are you employed in the home trade or the foreign?—Principally in the home.

State to the Committee, the present situation of the home trade, compared with the year preceding, and the year before that?—Certainly the home trade is not by any means so good as it was the year before last, and the year before that.

Then there has been a decrease in the home market, in the last two years?—Certainly there has.

To what amount may it have been?—That in some degree depends upon the price of the articles; for the articles have so fallen in value, although the same number of yards may be sold, they do not come to such an amount in price.

What is the decrease in value?—I should think, within the last four or five years, there has been a decrease of at least 25 per cent; I mean as to the value of the article.

How much of that declension has been in the last two years?—I think I may say, for the last four years 15; the last three years 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ more; there has been a sort of general declension till it has come to 25 per cent.

What articles particularly do you allude to?—Both cotton articles manufactured, and linen articles manufactured; both Irish linen, as well as the English manufacture.

Do you confine it to the linen and cotton?—Yes; because they are the only two in which I deal.

Allowing for the declension in the price, is there still a further decrease in the sale?—I have before said, that the decrease, as far as it regards ourselves, is, I think in point of price; I perhaps might illustrate it better by the number of yards; that we sell as many yards in number as ever we did, but they decrease in value, consequently they return the less.

Does the state of any other branch of trade fall within your knowledge?—Generally speaking, I have conversed with others in large concerns, in the city, and they have felt the same depression; but I do not know whether their articles have fallen as much as mine.

What is your opinion of the protecting duties?—I have never had but one, that the protecting duty is the best thing the government could do for the benefit of trade; that is, for the agricultural interest.

Are you of opinion, that the present distresses felt by the manufacturer, have arisen out of the great distress of the agriculturalist?—I do think it has; I may say, seven out of ten: but there have been other combining circumstances lately, that have served to distress the trade, and consequently the agricultural interest; I have been in business thirty-five years, I never knew an instance wherein the agricultural produce was at a fair and liberal, and proper price, wherein the home trade of the country did not flourish.

When you spoke of protecting duties, did you mean generally, or protecting duties confined to agriculture?—I can certainly speak particularly so, as it regards agriculture; for, in my view of the circumstances, agriculture is the very staple of the country; other protecting duties are absolutely necessary.

What should you think a fair protecting duty, as far as regards wheat?—When the protecting duty was in action, I was one of those that thought eighty shillings was not a proper protecting duty, inasmuch as, if the government had mentioned a higher sum, it might have been lowered afterwards, if it had been found to answer; but, upon a sudden peace, after a war so long, there was the ploughing

in the year 1813 and 1814, before you ever got a single grain into your barn, you were inundated by France, with every thing your farms produced; and the agricultural interest has scarcely recovered that shock up to the present moment.

Supposing there were a prohibition to the importation of corn, do you think the average price of wheat would be above or below 80s.?—That is a very difficult question for me to answer; it would depend upon the growth.

You have stated, that the declension in the goods in which you deal, has been 25 per cent, in four years; how much of that declension has taken place within the last two years?—I think from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent.

Do you ascribe that declension to the state of agriculture, or to any alteration in the value of currency?—I state that, as my opinion, that it is principally owing to the state of agriculture; for, if the farmer has no means of going to the shopkeeper, how can he buy his goods.

Martis, 20^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. John Medows Rodwell;

Again called in; and further Examined.

Mr.
J. M. Rodwell.

(20 March.)

HAVE you any correction to make of the evidence you gave yesterday?—I beg to be allowed to withdraw the whole of that part of my evidence, relating to the expenses of housekeeping.

Why do you wish to withdraw it?—Because when I left home, I had made up my expenses and produce, without taking that at all into consideration. After I came to the witnesses room yesterday, I unadvisedly consented, on the recommendation of some gentlemen there, to add my expenses of housekeeping, and I put the whole expenses of my housekeeping to one farm; whereas I am in the occupation of three farms; the rents of my two others fully equal the rent of the farm on which I had the honour of being examined by the Committee yesterday.

You are not connected in any way with the association now sitting at Henderson's Hotel?—I am not.

And you brought a statement of your own farm, and that is thrown into confusion by your having altered it, at the suggestions of some gentlemen you met in the evidence room, before you came into this room?—Yes, which appears by the paper I delivered in; and the additional paper is a separate writing by itself; it will appear to be recently written.

[*The Witness was informed that he might expunge the parts referred to.*]

Mr. Alderman Rothwell; again called in; and further Examined.

Mr.
Alderman Rothwell.

(20 March.)

YOU stated, yesterday, that you had further evidence you wished to give to the Committee?—If any further questions are asked of me, I will endeavour to answer them in the best way I can.

Were you in trade before the war in 1790 and 1792?—I was.

Was the price at that time higher or lower, or the same as it is now, of the articles you sold?—They were then very low; during the war, they rose to a prodigious height; and the returns of the country, I may say with perfect truth, were four or five times as great as at any former period of the inland trade.

What was the price before the war, in comparison with the price at the present moment?—I think the prices are now pretty much the same; prior to the war, goods were very low, but during the war they advanced very much in price,

Is it a remunerating price you now receive for the goods?—I can by no means say that we have not a profit upon what we sell; but it is owing to double industry and circumspection, the times having become so extremely different.

Were

Were the times as difficult before the war, in the year 1790 to 1792, when the price was the same?—Nothing like it.

Cannot you afford to sell cheaper now than in 1792, the goods you sell, owing to the improvements in machinery?—Certainly.

To your knowledge, does the manufacturing labourer of the commodity you deal in, receive as remunerating a price for his labour as he did six or eight years ago?—Certainly not; nor does he receive, by any means, such a remunerating price as he did during the war.

Does he receive as remunerating a price as he received before the war, from 1790 to 1792?—It is almost too much for my memory to go back to that period.

You have stated, that you were able to afford the goods which you sell in consequence of the improvement in machinery, at a lower price now than you could have done before that improvement?—Certainly.

But you stated, that the same actual price now, was more difficult for you to bear than it was before the war?—The quantity made now is five or six times told, even now in these difficult times, what it was in the year 1792, and prior to the war.

Were you rightly understood, that the price you receive now, is the same as it was in 1790 to 1792?—No; goods are, beyond comparison, cheaper now in consequence of the improvements in machinery.

Are any articles in which you deal, protected from foreign competition by high duties in this country?—The linen articles are.

Is not manufactured cotton also?—I do not know that there is any thing of the sort imported in any way.

Is there not a duty on the importation?—I cannot answer that question; I am not aware of any, excepting those manufactured in the East Indies, and which do not form a branch of our trade.

Would you get as great a rate per cent profit on a given capital, 5000 *l.* for instance, now, as you got in the year 1790?—Not at present, nor for the last two or three years.

How much less would it be per cent?—I should think nearly two and a half; I can answer only for my own concerns.

Have you often looked into the book of rates, and are you conversant with what are the duties on importation?—I am not.

Do not India muslins come into this country?—They do, under a very high duty, and also long cloths from India; there is a duty upon them; the question was asked me with regard to the distress of the agricultural interests, and how our trade and the trade in general was affected by it within the last two years, or perhaps a little more; on answer, I have to observe, that when the Government thought proper to interfere with the Bank restriction, we certainly did feel a very considerable pressure at that time, for it affected the credit of the country, it affected the credit of the shopkeeper and farmer, inasmuch as confidence from both, in consequence of that intimation, was in a measure withdrawn, and the circulating medium much less.

But since that pressure, the demand for your goods has been as great as before?—No; the article has been lower; we have had a demand, it is true, and I have said, that perhaps in point of bulk, we may have sold nearly as many goods, but not to so good a profit.

The consumption has been decreased?—The consumption has certainly decreased in some degree.

Mr. George Brown George; Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you reside?—At Mangreen, in the county of Norfolk.

Are you not a farmer, occupying land to a considerable extent in the neighbourhood of Norwich?—I am.

How long have you been in business?—Nearly thirty years.

Have you throughout the greatest part of that time, kept a regular account of your receipts and expenditure?—Yes, during the whole of the time.

Are you enabled from thence, to lay before the Committee any evidence from whence they might judge of your loss or gain?—Yes, I am, by this statement.

What is that statement?—The average price of corn, the average price of rent, tithes, poor rates, assessed taxes, labour, and tradesmen's bills.

Beginning with the year 1791, and ending with the year 1819?—Yes.

Mr.
Alderman Rothwell.
(20 March.)

Mr.
G. B. George.
(20 March.)

Mr.
G. B. George.

(20 March.)

Have you included the property tax?—No, I have not.

Of what quality is the land you allude to?—Very good.

Have you generally pursued the same course of husbandry upon it?—Yes, generally speaking; a regular four course husbandry.

What is the size of your farm?—100 acres.

What rent did you pay in 1791?—80 *l.* a year.

What was the amount of tithe?—14 *l.* 9 *s.*

Did you at that time, consider it an easy rate, both of rent and tithe?—Yes, a fair rent for it.

What do you state as the average produce of wheat and barley per acre, in 1791?—Forty bushels of wheat per acre, and forty bushels of barley per acre; equal quantities.

Is not that very considerably above the average produce of the county of Norfolk?—Considerably above it.

What should you say was the average produce of the county of Norfolk in wheat and barley, not applying yourself to the very poor, but to the mixed and light soils only?—Wheat, I suppose, about twenty-four bushels per acre, and barley thirty-two; that is, six and eight coombs per acre.

When was your rent first increased?—In the year 1805.

To what amount?—It was increased 15 *l.* a year.

When was your tithe increased, and to what amount?—The tithe was first increased at Michaelmas, 1798.

To what amount?—Only three guineas, the first increase.

When was your last increase of rent and tithe, and to what amount?—The last increase of rent and tithe, both the same year, was at Michaelmas 1812.

What was the increase of rent?—35 *l.*; that sum increasing it to 130 *l.*

To what extent was the tithe increased?—It was increased to 29 *l.* which was double what it originally was, within a shilling.

Did you ever consider the advances, in either rent or tithe, as unreasonable when first imposed?—No, certainly not, at that time.

Has the annual quantity of corn grown upon this land, materially increased since the year 1791?—Not at all.

What was the price of wheat, per bushel, in 1791?—Five shillings and six-pence per bushel.

What of barley?—Three shillings.

What is the price of each at this time, per bushel?—Barley, about three shillings a bushel; and wheat, about 7 *s.* 6 *d.* per bushel.

What was the amount of poor rate in 1791?—8 *l.* 2 *s.* 8 *d.*

What was it 1819?—45 *l.* 5 *s.* 3 *d.*

What was the amount of labour?—In the year 1791, 116 *l.* 1 *s.* 5 *d.*

What was it in the year 1819?—199 *l.* 3 *s.* 5 *d.*

Considering the payment of rent, tithes, labour and poor rates, as forming the chief outgoings on this land, what should you conceive to be a remunerating price for your corn at your present hire?—I consider that I could not sell the wheat for so little as forty-shillings the half quarter or coomb, nor the barley for so little as 30 *s.* to have a remunerating price.

In what proportion have the necessary tradesmen's bills, such as blacksmiths, wheelwrights and collar-makers, increased between the years 1791 and 1819?—More than double.

What was the amount of your blacksmith's bill in 1791?—8 *l.* 10 *s.* 8 *d.*

What was it in 1819?—18 *l.* 13 *s.* 6 *d.*

To what do you attribute this great rise in your necessary bills?—I attribute it to taxation; but I do not pretend to judge about that.

Has any material reduction taken place in the price, either of labour or of the necessary articles of husbandry, lately?—No, very little.

To what extent has the price of labour been reduced?—It is now reduced to twenty pence per day; we were paying two shillings.

When was it reduced?—Soon after the wheat sowing; a little after last Michaelmas.

What are the articles of husbandry in the price of which any reduction has taken place?—I do not know of any.

What was the price of a load of muck in the year 1791?—10 *s.* 6 *d.* per waggon load, carted from Norwich, a distance of five miles to this farm.

What should you pay for it now?—Eighteen shillings.

What was the total amount of your expenditure in the year 1791?—232 *l.* 6 *s.* 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*

What

What was it in the year 1819?—458*l.* 7*s.* 1½*d.*

What proportion does the amount of labour bestowed upon arable land, bear to that on pasture land?—I think fully as eight to one.

Is the general diet of your labourers better or worse than when you began farming?—Much the same; only they do not get the beer they used to get; I consider, that they live in other respects pretty nearly as well, but there is no allowance of beer from the farmer, and they do not brew themselves.

Are you in the habit of giving them beer in time of harvest?—Yes, they find themselves, I put the harvest out to them; but I find it necessary to give them beer, particularly the days we are carting, and in hay-making time.

Do you find the same desire to work which you did formerly, upon offering to your labourers what might be called a good job?—Nothing like it.

To what do you attribute that difference?—They seem to have lost that independent spirit they formerly had, they wish more to come to the parish; or they are not so nice about coming to the parish as they used to be.

Can you assign any sufficient cause for the great increase of poor rates?—No; only what I have observed before, that they do not seem to scruple coming or asking for relief.

In your parish, has it ever been the practice to pay labourers low wages for day work, and to make it up out of the rates?—Never, at any time.

At the present price of corn, do you consider that any great proportion of the county of Norfolk could be cultivated to advantage?—None that I know of could be at the present price of corn.

If your opinion was asked in what way the most material relief could be afforded, could you suggest any particular mode?—No; I should not like to do it; I do not pretend to be a judge of those things.

Do you think the warehousing system has any prejudicial effect on the British corn market?—I cannot pretend to give an opinion upon it.

If you were requested to give an opinion respecting the influence of the warehousing system upon the British corn market, should you speak of it as prejudicial, from the possibility of a fraudulent circulation of foreign corn; or should you speak of it as depriving the British grower of the full advantage of the capital of the British merchant?—I think, I should speak of it as depriving the British grower of the full advantage of the capital of the British merchant; but I had rather not give an opinion upon it.

Can you give to the Committee any calculation, as to the average of profit arising from the sale of stock upon those hundred acres?—No, I cannot satisfactorily to myself; because I have taken other lands into my occupation since my having this farm, four or five years afterwards; therefore my stock was moved from one farm to the other; and it would be almost impossible to give an accurate opinion upon it.

In the present statement of your expenditure and your receipts, is there no charge either for extra manure or interest on the capital you had embarked; and it is entirely exclusive of any charge that should be made for the subsistence of yourself and family?—There is no charge whatever for either of them.

Do you imagine, that the poor rates throughout the county of Norfolk have generally increased or decreased for the last two years; and are they at this moment on the rise or fall?—They are in my neighbourhood on the rise; and have been increasing for the last two or three years.

Is any material part of the population of your parish and your neighbourhood now employed in the city of Norwich, in the weaving manufactory?—Yes, many.

What should you suppose would be the amount of the weekly wages of a child of twelve years old, tolerably expert in the weaving manufactory?—From ten to twelve shillings per week; I can instance one of thirteen, that earns twelve shillings a week regularly.

What could a woman earn?—About the same sum; there is very little difference between a woman and a girl.

What could you, supposing those children were returned back upon your occupation, afford to give them per week?—Sixpence a day, that would be 3*s.* a week.

How much could you afford to give a woman?—Eight-pence.

If the prices of corn were to continue the same as at present for two years longer, and a general abatement in land and tithe was to take place in consequence, to the amount

Mr.
G. B. George.

(20 March.)

amount of 20 per cent; do you believe that the general rate of rent and tithe in Norfolk, is such, that the occupiers of land would be able to meet the other outgoings on cultivation, and retain their farms with any prospect of advantage?—I am sure I could not upon my own.

From what period do you date the first commencement of your difficulties, or at least of the decrease in your profits?—I think the last six years; if I were to go as far as seven, I think I should not go too far.

Do you not believe that there is at this time a great avidity to bring land into a course of cultivation for wheat; and a corresponding indifference respecting the cultivation of barley?—In our neighbourhood there is, certainly.

Is

[The Witness delivered in the statement referred

A STATEMENT OF THE AVERAGE CROPS OF

Likewise, The Average Prices; also, The Annual Rent,

From Michaelmas 1791 - - -

THIS FARM				Average Quantity of Wheat per Acre, in bushels.		Average Price per coomb.		Average Quantity of Barley per Acre, in bushels.		Average Price per coomb.		RENT.			TYTHE.		
Contains 88 Acres of Arable and 12 Acres of Pasture ; but during the first 14 years there were 18 Acres of ordinary Pasture occupied with it, at the same Rent and other Expenses.																	
				Bushels.	S. D.	Bushels.	S. D.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
From Michaelmas 1791 to Michaelmas 1792				40	22/	40	12/	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1792 to Michaelmas 1793				36	22/	44	13/6	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1793 to Michaelmas 1794				40	23/	43	15/3	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1794 to Michaelmas 1795				24	33/	44	15/11	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1795 to Michaelmas 1796				40	45/	50	15/9	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1796 to Michaelmas 1797				36	22/	36	11/6	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1797 to Michaelmas 1798				34	23/	48	11/3	80	-	-	14	9	-				
From Michaelmas 1798 to Michaelmas 1799				46	28/	42	13/3	80	-	-	17	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1799 to Michaelmas 1800				32	55/6	44	25/6	80	-	-	17	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1800 to Michaelmas 1801				32	59/6	48	33/6	80	-	-	21	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1801 to Michaelmas 1802				32	36/	46	20/6	80	-	-	21	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1802 to Michaelmas 1803				34	29/	52	12/	80	-	-	21	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1803 to Michaelmas 1804				30	25/	56	10/8	80	-	-	21	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1804 to Michaelmas 1805				23	47/6	30	21/	80	-	-	21	12	-				
From Michaelmas 1805 to Michaelmas 1806				32	36/6	46	14/6	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1806 to Michaelmas 1807				32	36/	39	19/	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1807 to Michaelmas 1808				36	35/6	34	20/	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1808 to Michaelmas 1809				32	36/	40	20/	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1809 to Michaelmas 1810				28	52/6	48	20/6	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1810 to Michaelmas 1811				30	43/6	46	16/6	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1811 to Michaelmas 1812				30	62/	38	22/6	95	-	-	25	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1812 to Michaelmas 1813				36	48/	36	29/	130	-	-	29	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1813 to Michaelmas 1814				36	34/6	45	19/6	130	-	-	29	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1814 to Michaelmas 1815				36	34/	52	13/	130	-	-	29	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1815 to Michaelmas 1816				32	39/	48	11/	130	-	-	29	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1816 to Michaelmas 1817				35	56/6	44	19/	130	-	-	29	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1817 to Michaelmas 1818				32	38/6	42	23/	130	-	-	29	-	-				
From Michaelmas 1818 to Michaelmas 1819				34	33/9	27	26/	130	-	-	29	-	-				

Is not this desire of cultivating wheat, likely to produce a system of over-cropping?
—According to my opinion, it is.

Mr.
G. B. George.

When land has been thus unfairly treated for a series of years, you cannot reasonably expect that it will continue to reward you with a fair crop of wheat?—I think not.

(20 March.)

How is the wheat introduced?—They put wheat after turnips.

They grow only two wheat crops out of the four?—Only two; but they put one wheat instead of barley.

Can you state what amount you paid annually under the property tax?—No; I cannot.

to by him, which was read as follows:]

CORN GROWING UPON A FARM IN NORFOLK;

Tythe, Poor Rates, Taxes, Labour, Tradesmen's Bills, &c.

- - - to Michaelmas 1819.

POOR RATES.	ASSESSED TAXES.	Labourers.	TRADESMEN'S BILLS.				TOTAL EXPENSES.
			Blacksmiths.	Wheelwrights.	Collarmaker.		
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
8 2 8	1 13 1	116 1 5	8 10 8	1 1 10	2 8 2½	232 6 10½	
9 — 8	1 10 10¼	131 12 —	10 16 4½	1 18 3	4 4 8	253 11 10¼	
11 10 8	2 2 ½	135 19 8	9 3 2	6 14 11	4 14 10	264 14 3½	
14 6 8	3 1 11	137 19 4	12 17 2	5 9 1	2 8 9	270 11 11	
25 10 8	3 16 4	143 19 3	11 6 4	3 8 10	3 7 8	285 18 1	
22 14 8	5 16 6	120 12 10	13 2 8	4 7 1	4 14 7	265 17 4	
13 8 8	12 16 10¼	137 18 2	8 3 4½	5 5 —	2 12 2	274 13 2¼	
16 4 8	21 11 5	124 15 —	15 7 —	6 16 3	3 5 2	285 11 6	
42 18 8	22 4 1¼	176 10 7	13 4 4½	4 — 2½	3 16 9	360 6 8¾	
60 2 6½	23 10 1	196 16 1	11 — 4	5 11 —	2 18 5	401 10 5½	
31 2 5½	25 19 —	159 3 9	15 13 11½	5 — 2	1 15 11	340 7 3	
28 12 2¼	15 19 —	180 14 2	12 5 3	5 16 3	3 13 1½	348 12 —¼	
31 1 11	15 9 —	180 5 10	13 16 3½	2 19 5	2 6 9	347 11 2½	
37 14 7½	15 14 —	146 12 —	15 9 8½	2 16 8	4 — 3	323 19 3	
33 — 8	17 3 —	153 17 2	16 19 2½	4 10 11	5 19 4	351 10 3½	
30 8 5¼	15 13 4½	180 18 10	14 7 1	8 2 1	3 6 4	372 16 2¼	
33 19 2¼	17 — 6	158 19 9	14 5 6½	5 5 6	2 2 6	351 13 —¼	
40 2 1½	18 2 9¼	150 10 6	15 11 —	8 13 1½	3 8 8	356 8 2¾	
45 15 9½	17 18 —	156 16 8	20 2 2	10 2 —	4 17 4	375 11 11½	
43 13 5	18 6 11¾	184 14 11	19 8 2½	6 15 8	5 4 8	398 3 10¼	
54 14 1½	18 6 11¾	211 15 —	24 10 —½	12 5 9½	5 14 3	447 6 2¼	
56 17 6½	20 10 8	206 18 8	23 5 2½	12 13 4	6 6 5	485 11 10	
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Mr.
G. B. George.

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What is the quality of land cultivated by you?—It is of very superior quality.

You stated that wages were reduced after the last wheat sowing; do you mean to say that the price of labour was reduced only since the last wheat sowing?—No; only in this year.

It was two shillings previously to that?—Yes.

Was there any fall in the price of labour in 1816?—That I cannot speak to.

Do you employ the same quantity of labour in your farm, from year to year?—Yes; with very little difference, if any.

You stated that 80*s.* a quarter would be necessary to remunerate you for growing corn; how much would that remunerating price be lowered, if your rent and tithes fell to the rates of 1791?—That I cannot answer.

If corn should remain at the present price, do you not expect that all the expenses of your farm will very considerably diminish?—No; there is a doubt, in my opinion, whether they would or not; I do not think it is likely they would.

Do you not think that your farrier's bill, and your collar-maker's bill would be lowered?—I do not know; I should hope every thing would be lowered; but I have no particular reason for supposing they would; it must be a mere matter of opinion; I cannot positively say that they would be lowered.

Will not poor rates diminish, if the present price of corn should continue?—That does not appear, for they have been increasing for the last two years.

What is your opinion?—I wish only to speak to facts; I should be very cautious to give an opinion.

Do you happen to know what the proportion of the poor rates paid by the manufacturer and farmer, for equal capital, is?—No, I do not; for we have no manufacturer in the parish who pays poor rates, so that I am not capable of giving that information.

Their rate is not on the capital, but on the premises?—Yes.

Has the increase in poor rates arisen from a greater number of labourers being thrown out of employ?—We have had but few thrown out of employ in this parish; they have been employed generally speaking; we have none out of employ at this time.

Under the present reduction of wages there, are they capable of sustaining their families without assistance from the parish?—No; they have had assistance from the parish all the time.

Are orders of relief from magistrates frequent in your district?—Yes.

More frequent than in former years?—I do not know whether they are more frequent; they were always frequent.

Is there any scale on which the magistrates' orders are made?—Yes; the value of a stone of meal to each man and his wife, and half a stone to each child; at this time it is two shillings.

It is always paid to the individual in money?—Yes.

How long has that scale existed?—For several years.

Previous to the great increase of the poor rates?—No; since the increase of the poor rates.

How can the poor rates be increasing now, while the price of meal is lowering?—So it is.

Are the labourers you employ, paid partly out of the poor rates?—No.

You were before asked, whether the reduced rates of wages were sufficient for the maintenance of those who had families; you said they had relief from the poor rates?—It is in that way, certainly.

Do you pay them a certain sum, with an understanding that they are to go to the overseers for the remainder?—No.

The farmers have decreased their labour?—Yes.

From what circumstance; is it not because the price of corn is not a remunerating price?—Certainly.

Are your workmen's bills decreased?—No.

Has the general state of agriculture, within your knowledge, deteriorated within the last two years?—No; I do not think in our neighbourhood it has much, because the lands were in a very high state of cultivation previously; it is hardly seen at present.

In the rest of the county, so far as you know, is that the case?—Yes.

Are you in the habit of buying manure?—Yes.

Was

Was the last crop a good one?—The barley crop was a very good one, and very good in quality; the wheat crop was not.

Do you consider it an average crop, taking the county of Norfolk generally?—I should think it was below an average crop; but I can hardly give an opinion for the whole county.

The barley was an over crop?—Yes, above an ordinary crop.

Did you ever know a greater crop of barley?—No; but I think I have known as good.

Can you explain to the Committee, from what causes your assessed taxes have increased since the year 1791 to the present time?—When I first began business, I had thirteen windows in my dwelling-house, which are now increased to fifteen; I had a cart, though not a taxed cart at that time, a riding horse, and a boy that used to clean boots and shoes and look after my riding horse, and a dog. I have upon this farm, paid the duty on six cart horses, which is an increase of my assessed taxes; but for those things for which I at first paid 1*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* I now pay 13*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* for the same articles, with the exception of two windows increased.

It appears by the paper you have given in, that the rent of this farm, which stood at 80*l.* a year up to the year 1805, was then raised on a lease of seven years to 95*l.* a year, and upon the expiration of that term, for a further term of seven years to 130*l.* a year; do you know what is the present rent of the farm?—I believe it was relet at the same rent.

That is, at the price of 26*s.* an acre; would any reasonable man doubt, for one single instant, as to closing with a proprietor who offered him land at the rate of 26*s.* per acre, that was capable of bearing upon the average nearly forty bushels of wheat, and the same quantity of barley?—I should think not.

If you had not changed your farm, should you have thought it worth while to have continued in the farm at that rent?—I should not have wished to have given it up, until I found how times would turn.

Mr. Thomas Barton; Called in; and Examined.

ARE you clerk of the magistrates of Battle, in Sussex?—I am.

Can you state to the Committee, any thing as to the number of labourers out of employ in the part of the country in which you act as clerk?—I think, in the district in which I reside, a district of forty parishes, there are a thousand that have no employment that is useful.

Of course applications for relief are very much multiplied?—Very much indeed; more than I ever knew.

Can you give any reasons for the number of persons thrown out of employ?—Certainly; the inability of farmers to pay them. I have heard an application repeatedly made to the farmers; and the answer has been uniformly, they could employ them, but they could not find the money to pay them.

Have there been many warrants of distress, issued by the Magistrates, on the farmers in that part of the country?—Yes; I think more in this last year, than I ever knew in four years before.

Do the farmers in that part of the country generally hold large or small farms?—Not particularly large or small; from one to two hundred acres.

You state, that the farmers in that part of the country, are many of them unable to pay the rates; and that warrants of distress have issued more within the last two or three years than formerly?—Within the last year particularly.

Do you know the population of the forty parishes comprehended within your district?—I do not.

Is there any manufactory in your district, or is it agricultural?—There is only a small manufactory for gunpowder, employing thirty or forty hands; in other respects, it is an agricultural district.

Did you mean a thousand men or a thousand persons?—I should think there are a thousand able bodied men, and the greatest proportion of them good labourers.

Do you mean to say there are at least a thousand?—I have not a doubt that I could in three or four days, bring forward a thousand able bodied labourers, who have no employment at all beneficial to themselves or the country.

In point of fact, is it not very difficult to collect rates, in these parishes, from the poverty of the farmers?—Excessively so; those warrants have never been issued without

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without the greatest pains, by the parish officers and magistrates, to collect the rates without them.

What is the cultivation of the district, in which this distress prevails?—It is generally corn; there are some hops of course.

You are a solicitor?—I am.

Have not most of the farmers in your district a hop garden?—No; I think at least one half of the district is not what is commonly understood to be in the hop country; the place I live in divides that part of the country; to the eastward of me, there are a good many hops; to the west they are not found to answer, unless they will grow any where, and then they can get no return for them; the greatest distress I know of, is in the parishes in which there are no hops at all.

On application of labourers for relief, what course do the magistrates pursue?—They found the applications so numerous, that they gave a general order to the different parishes, that they should send one parish officer to every meeting, that they might hear the complaints at once.

What is the difference between the number of persons relieved now, and at this time last year?—Not having come up expecting to be examined, I am not prepared to answer that; but I should think, there are one third more people on the parish books than there were this time last year.

Supposing a labourer applied to the magistrates for relief, do they order the parish to give him a certain sum in money or employ him?—They generally order the parish officer to find him employment, by which he may earn what they conceive to be absolutely necessary to subsistence; but these orders are not in all cases complied with, for in many instances they have not been able to find the money; they have had twenty men together going to the poor-house to be fed with soup, instead of having money allowed.

What is the scale of maintenance generally adopted by the magistrates in their order?—I think about two shillings or half-a-crown a head, a week, for a man and his wife and three children; it would not be supposed he would live much under 12s. 6d.

Do you mean to say these thousand labourers are living in perfect idleness?—No; but they are not in their regular work; many who are not concerned in farming, have found it necessary to make work for them.

Has there been any thing like a disposition to tumult or irregular proceedings?—There has been once or twice something of the kind.

Have they gone in bodies to demand relief?—It was appearance more than any thing else.

What was done in those cases?—They were resisted; they were told that they could not be heard in a body; in one instance, two or three men who were disposed to be turbulent, were taken into custody.

Are all those persons who are out of employment, persons who were engaged as labourers in agriculture before they came upon the parish?—Very generally so; in the towns and villages there may be some of different trades.

Are any of them sea-faring men?—No; there are some smugglers out of employment; the number has increased since smuggling was stopped.

Your information, as to these persons out of employment, does not apply to the bad description of labourers only, but includes those whom, if the farmer had the means of employing them, he would consider as good labourers, and be ready to employ?—I think the generality of those labourers are those who have been brought up to agriculture, and who would make good husbandry labourers, and are willing to do so, if they could have employ.

What is the general price of tillage land in your neighbourhood?—I should think the great proportion in our country, is let from 15s. to 20s. an acre; there is a great variety of soils in the very spot I live upon.

Are the bricklayers and carpenters, and persons of that description, who have been in full employment during the summer, in the habit of returning upon you during the winter?—They do not return to us usually; we have some of them now, because there is little or none of that work going on. I know many tradespeople of that kind, who had work formerly, have less to do now.

In the summer they are in the habit of receiving full wages, are they not?—I do not know.

A bricklayer's apprentice and a carpenter's apprentice, receive more per day than your day labourers?—Certainly, about one half more.

Are

Are you agent for the management of any estates in Sussex?—I am.

Are the rents pretty well paid?—Certainly worse than I ever knew before; the arrears are greater than I ever knew.

Have the rents been reduced?—I think very generally, in the immediate neighbourhood in which I am, there have been some very great reductions made.

To what amount do you suppose?—I know a very large estate, in my neighbourhood, at the last audit, 20 per cent was struck off; and it was let upon a low scale before, in proportion to the rest of country.

Do you know what is the difference of the rent of those lands, from what it was thirty years ago?—I have not at all considered the subject; it is longer ago than I was in the habit of thinking on business.

In your neighbourhood, is there not an estate on which some farms have been given up to the landlord?—There are many instances of farmers who have just now given notice to quit.

Have not some farms been advertised, without the means of finding an occupier?—It has not fallen to me to know that; I know many instances where notices have been given to quit.

Thomas Nowlan, Esquire, Called in; and Examined.

WHAT is your profession?—I may say I am interested as a manufacturer, I am interested as a landed proprietor, and I certainly feel interested in the welfare of the merchant as the friend of both. I am interested more as a manufacturer than as a landed proprietor. I have been an extensive land agent, and was bred originally to the law.

*Thomas Nowlan,
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Do you know the present state of Ireland as to agricultural distress?—I do.

State it to the Committee?—I conceive the state of the tenantry of Ireland to be one of extreme distress indeed, from their obtaining an inadequate price for the productions of the soil.

Has that distress increased since last year?—Yes; I conceive it has increased in the last year; but from 1814 it has been very great.

You mean that it began in 1814?—Yes.

Can you state any other causes of that distress than the low price of corn?—I conceive the distress in Ireland to be general, and so general, that I feel it would be more satisfactory to take a view of the distress generally, conceiving the agricultural distress to be the basis of it.

Have you made any calculations?—With respect to the last year, I have got a calculation made by a very intelligent gentleman, who is secretary to the Farming Society in Ireland, to whom I applied on the subject.

Does he attend to be examined?—Yes; he is not here at this moment, but he is in London.

Was that statement made in concurrence with your own opinion?—Certainly.

Do you believe it to be correct?—I do.

You consulted Mr. Radcliffe, in order to confirm your own opinion?—Precisely so; we fully concurred in that view of it.

Can you state the average prices of wheat, barley and oats, in the ports of Ireland on the beginning of this month?—Yes; I have taken the statement handed me from particular returns.

What returns do you refer to?—The different market notes of the prices in each market; the average prices of the corn sold in the different markets are published in the newspapers; from them that statement is taken.

How many markets are included in this paper?—I cannot exactly charge my memory; I prepared that calculation from documents, and can vouch for its accuracy.

Can you state, what the average price of wheat was on the third of the present month?—42*s.* 9*d.* Irish, making in British money at par 39*s.* 4½*d.* per quarter British.

What was the price of oats?—13*s.* 7*d.* Irish, 12*s.* 5½*d.* British per quarter, and for barley 16*s.* 2*d.* British per quarter.

Do you conceive those prices remunerate the farmer?—Certainly not.

What prices do you suppose would afford the farmer a fair profit, and enable him to pay his rent?—I should suppose about 75*s.* British per quarter for wheat; for oats, about 30*s.*; and for barley, about 40*s.*

In what state is the general cultivation of Ireland at present, with respect to

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a comparison of three years ago?—I cannot say that the cultivation of the country has retrograded; the high price in the year 1817, I think, gave an impulse to the agriculture of the country; but it is quite clear, that if the present prices continue, the farmers would look to converting their land into pasture, as the present prices are quite inadequate to the expense of growing corn.

You reside in the county of Kilkenny?—I do.

In that county they make a considerable use of lime?—They do.

Has the consumption of lime decreased?—Very considerably; and there is one good criterion whereby to judge of that fact, they burn the lime in the county of Kilkenny and the adjoining counties with culm, obtained in the collieries of Castle-comer; and the person who manages those collieries has informed me, that the demand for culm has fallen off almost entirely.

Has that demand fallen off in consequence of farmers not having the money to buy it?—Certainly.

Kilkenny is a great wheat county?—Yes; and Carlow and Tipperary, with all which I am acquainted.

Do they burn the lime with turf in Kilkenny?—Not in that county, because there are no turf bogs in it.

In this year, the exportation of wheat has been greater than usual?—Yes.

From what has that proceeded?—From the abundant harvest of last year.

Has not the farmer been more disposed to export his wheat than his oats, from the very low price of oats?—Yes.

Has not the exportation very much exhausted the quantity of wheat in Ireland?—I conceive it has.

Is there much grain in hand, of the last crop in Ireland?—Indeed I should infer not, from the great poverty of the farmers, and their anxiety to convert whatever they have into money.

You have had two good years for wheat in Ireland?—We have; the corn was excellent; I have some specimens of the corn of the last harvest.

In what state is the cattle market in Ireland?—It is beginning now to revive; it was greatly depressed, so much so, that I understand the graziers sustained a total loss of a year's rent, obtaining for their fat cattle scarcely the prices they paid for their stores.

Do you know whether any of the cattle that were sent from Ballinasloe to England, not being able to find a market, returned back again?—I cannot say that I have heard that fact.

Do you know what were the prices of cattle, according to the last return from Ballinasloe?—I cannot state from memory.

Can you speak as to the payment of rents?—I can.

State in what condition the farmers are, as to the payment of their rents?—Since the year 1813, rents have been very badly paid in Ireland. I conceive that the high prices of 1800 and 1801, operated as a great inducement to the extension of tillage in Ireland; then the war commencing in 1803, and continuing till 1814, operated to increase that extension; and during that period, the farmer was certainly prosperous in Ireland. He paid considerable rents, which the landlord expended liberally, both in employment and in the consumption of manufactures.

Then in fact, since 1814, the rents have fallen considerably?—Yes; after the capture of Paris, a most extraordinary change took place; the price of all produce fell to such a degree, that I know on some estates, the tenantry conceived the sum they had received for their corn so trifling, that it was not worth while to pay it to the landlord, and they expended it in the alehouse, and on other enjoyments.

Had not the growth of wheat, from the year 1809 to the year 1814, been extended to many parts of Ireland where wheat was never grown before?—I entertain some doubts upon the subject, as to the eastern parts, but believe it was the case in the western parts of Ireland, with which I am not well acquainted; I have no doubt it did extend in Galway, and the neighbouring counties.

Was not wheat grown during the high prices, on land that would not, in the common course of things, have been selected to grow wheat upon?—Certainly.

What effect has the distressed state of agriculture had upon the consumption of manufactures of Ireland?—So serious, that I conceive most of the men of business in Ireland have suffered severely. I have an opportunity of knowing a good deal about the situation of the retailers and other men of business in Ireland, and from the great poverty of the farmer, he has returned to a state of the most perfect simplicity;

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plicity; he has laid down his boots and come to brogues, a very inferior description of shoes; he has laid down his good cloth, and come to what is called frieze in Ireland. With respect to the landlord, from the falling off of his rents, he is unable to deal with the shopkeeper to his usual extent, or if he does deal, he is not able to pay him; and hence it follows, that the retailer, from want of consumption or want of payment, is unable to purchase from, or pay the manufacturer. I will add a fact, which I feel to be material, to show the state of the retailers, a very important class; such is their state, that the merchant has become himself a retailer, from the difficulty of meeting with persons trust worthy. We have, in several instances, large retail establishments formed by merchants.

Can you mention one?—I can mention retail establishments, for tea, wine and groceries, opened by import merchants, from the difficulty of dealing with retailers to whom they can intrust their property.

There is a large establishment in the woollen branch carried on by a relation of yours?—There is.

That was thriving?—It was.

Is it now thriving?—It sustained great difficulties the last year, from a great accumulation of stock and other circumstances.

In what state was the exchange between England and Ireland in the year 1814?—The exchange in the year 1814 was under par.

How is the exchange now?—The exchange is also under par, it is moderate at this moment.

Account for how the prosperity and adversity of Ireland produced the same effect?—With respect to the year 1814, I am not prepared to speak, I was on the Continent the greater part of that year. In the year 1813, the exchange was such, that 100 *l.* Irish was worth 100 *l.* British.

How was that produced?—By the great exports, certainly.

How does it happen at this moment, that the exchange is again moderate?—From the very abundant harvest of last year, and our distress causing us to export every thing we possibly could.

Has not the importation into Ireland of all goods been less in this year than it probably was in any preceding year?—I am not prepared to say what it is in this year; but I am prepared to say, that in the year 1813 we imported into Ireland, of the manufactures of England, to the amount of nearly four millions; and in the years 1815 and 1816, that exportation fell off to about a million and a half.

How has it been the last year?—I have not seen any return of it.

Can you state what has been the fall in rents since the year 1813?—It is a difficult matter to say, rents have been paid so badly in general; and in many instances, scarcely any rent at all has been paid.

Where it has been paid, has there not been a very great diminution of rents?—Very great.

What do you believe would be the consequence to Ireland, of a continuance of those low prices of corn?—The consequence would be, that the tenantry would not be able to cultivate the lands, which must then return to grass. Such would be the consequence, with respect to those lands at present in tillage.

Then if those prices were to continue, you conceive it would throw out of cultivation a considerable proportion of the land?—Undoubtedly, that would be the first effect, the natural effect. The farmer is acted upon as every other person is, by the expectation of profit; and consequently, would fly from a system attended with such extreme loss. The despondency prevailing in Ireland at this moment is such, that I cannot say what will be the consequence, there is a general feeling of despair pervading the tenantry of Ireland.

On those farms on which rent has been paid since 1813, what has been the fall in the rent?—I conceive about one-third.

Was there ever more corn raised in Ireland than is now raised there?—I should imagine the last year was as abundant a year as Ireland ever witnessed.

Is there any land taken out of cultivation in Ireland?—I conceive, that if it were not for the prices of 1817, a great portion of the tillage land of Ireland would have gone out of cultivation. The losses of 1814 and 1815, made an impression upon the farmers, that they must return to pasture as soon as they possibly could. The failure of the harvest of 1816, gave an impulse which brought the plough into action again.

Have you ever known wheat so low in Ireland as it is at this moment?—In the year 1815, I fancy it was as low.

Could they cultivate it at a profit in the year 1815, at the then prices?—Certainly not.

Thomas Noulan,
Esq.

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What could wheat be cultivated for, on the best land of Ireland, if no rent was paid for the land?—I have made a calculation; exclusive of rent, tithe, tax and manure, 10 *l.* 1 *s.* an acre.

Taking it with the deduction of the rent only, at how much per quarter?—Sixty-five shillings a quarter.

You state that wheat can be raised at 75 *s.* a quarter, and that would be a remunerating price to those who pay rent in Ireland; at what price could it be raised on the very best land if they had not any rent to pay?—I am not prepared to answer that question at this moment, more fully than I have done.

Can you suggest any mode of relief for the distressed state of agriculture?—I conceive that the effectual mode of relieving the farmer, is to protect him effectually against foreign competition.

In what manner would you protect him?—The most effectual manner would be to prohibit foreign corn altogether; and I consider the effect of that measure would be, the giving a direction to the capital of the country, that would very speedily not only furnish an adequate supply to the United Kingdom, but on more reasonable terms, from the increased growth which would then take place.

Would the prohibiting the importation of corn, sink the remunerating price below 75 *s.*?—I conceive it would not do it immediately; but that the effect of increased capital and increased skill, which would be brought into action from the security afforded against foreign competition, would make corn more reasonable, and still more profitable to the farmer. There is nothing so injurious as the shocks to which he has been exposed in the last seven years.

The question referred, not to the state in which he has been for the last seven years, but to the price which you consider a remunerating price?—I must refer to the last answer, as I do not feel myself at this moment prepared to make a more explicit one.

You have stated, that you think at the present time, with the charges to which the Irish farmer is subjected, and the rent he has to pay, 75 *s.* is a remunerating price for corn; supposing a prohibition on the importation, would that price of 75 *s.* be higher or lower than a remunerating price?—I conceive, that if protected against foreign competition, the article would be brought into market upon a fair principle, and the price would be regulated by the supply and demand; but the injurious effect of foreign competition proceeds not so much from the quantity of foreign corn imported, as from the effect it has upon speculation. I consider that prices have been very much regulated by the feeling both of the purchaser and the seller. If the farmer, as he was in the habit during the war, considered that corn was likely to rise, he held back, and by not supplying the market too freely, the remunerating price was maintained; the purchaser was governed also by his calculations, as to the probability of the supply being equal to the demand; now they feel no apprehension on that point, on account of the importation of foreign corn, and the warehousing of large quantities of foreign corn in this country.

Your answer is in relation to importations—the question does not refer to importations; you state, that a certain price is now necessary in order to remunerate the grower of corn in Ireland; if there was an absolute prohibition against the importation of corn, and there could be no competition, would the remunerating price be above or below 75 *s.*?—The quantity, I apprehend, would in that case be increased, and the price will always be regulated by the amount of the supply. I should be disposed to draw the conclusion, that in progress of time, protection against foreign competition, would lead to the employment of capital and skill in that particular branch, so as to cause that increased supply, which would be calculated to reduce the value below 75 *s.* British.

You have stated, that rents since 1813, have fallen one third in Ireland; can you specify any instances of extensive rentals collected with that diminution?—I have spoken from being an agent, and receiving rents; I have been a considerable agent.

You are now?—I now audit the accounts of agents, and am confidentially consulted by landed proprietors, possessed of estates to a very considerable amount.

You consider the year 1813, the year at which rents were highest in Ireland?—I do.

—What were the rents in 1813, as compared with the rents in 1792; were they double?—I consider them as double.

Were they more than double?—I should not be surprized, if in some instances, they were; but I think generally, the rents had doubled between 1792 and 1813; when

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when I speak of doubled, it merely relates to lands, the lease of which was made previous to 1792 and expired in 1813; they make long leases in Ireland.

If land of a certain quality had been in 1792, let at 20 s. an acre, would it have let in 1813 for 40 s.?—Generally speaking, I think it might.

Was that without any capital being applied to that land in the shape of buildings and inclosures?—Yes; it is perhaps too much to say that it doubled between 1792 and 1813; I would say between 1786, when land began to rise after the American war, and 1813.

Is it now diminished one third upon the rents of 1813?—At least; and in fact as far as I could judge from the agents' accounts I have examined, and from the large arrears due, it is impossible to form any opinion what sacrifices the landlord may be ultimately obliged to make; I have known a large tract of excellent corn land let in the last year, at the same rent it was let in the year 1788.

What was, in 1813, the rent per Irish acre of the best arable land in Ireland?—About 50 s. an acre; if I say the best arable land, I have certainly known about three guineas paid for the Irish, not the statute acre.

What was the rise in the price of labour during that period in Ireland?—I think during that period it doubled certainly.

What were the wages of labour generally, in 1813?—They vary according to the particular seasons, in harvest, &c. when the potatoes are digging; I have known a reaper paid 5 s. a day and get his food, previous to the year 1813; and I have known the same man in the last year and for a few years before, willing to work for his food alone, without any hire.

What was the common rate for common day labour on a farm in 1813?—With the exception of the harvest and potatoe digging, the business is usually done by cottagers who are allowed a certain portion of land, and perhaps from ten pence to a shilling a day; I think these were the wages of an agricultural labourer; but then during the harvest or mowing or potatoe digging, he was paid for a short period much higher.

Is it much reduced from that now?—Very much.

What is he paid now for cutting down or harvest?—I have known in the last season, men who were willing to work for sixpence to a shilling a day in the harvest time.

Do you think that Ireland sustains equal injury from the importation of foreign corn, generally, or do you think that the injury is greater, from the influx of any one species of grain rather than another?—I consider that in the last year, Ireland sustained the most serious loss by the importation of oats into this country.

Is there any extensive trade in malt carried on between this country and Ireland, at this moment?—I cannot say that there is.

Are you aware of any alteration having taken place lately in the regulations respecting the intercourse between this country and Ireland in the article of malt?—I am not.

If there was a free export of wool from Ireland, would it not contribute very much to assist the Irish farmer?—Certainly.

Is not a great deal of the land in Ireland peculiarly well calculated for sheep?—Yes, and for the growth of long wool, which cannot be procured on the Continent; and therefore would be purchased with great avidity.

Is it not generally understood, that thirty or forty years ago, very large quantities of wool were sent fraudulently from Ireland to France?—Longer ago; I am inclined to think about sixty or eighty years ago.

Is it understood to have been a traffic attended with very great profits?—It was so conceived, I believe.

You mentioned, that a protecting duty seemed to be the only mode in your opinion of redress?—I conceive it would be the most effectual one.

Are there protecting duties on the manufactures of Ireland against foreign manufactures?—There are, on every one that I know of.

Do you see any reason why the manufacture of corn should not be protected in like manner?—None whatever; I conceive that manufacture the most important of any.

Taking into consideration the price, as far as your information extends, of foreign corn, are you enabled to state what rate of duty would be a sufficient protection?—I am not prepared to answer that question, but from my knowledge of the natural fertility of Ireland, and of the improvement of which her tillage is susceptible, I do conceive, that Ireland is capable of producing as much corn as England could have occasion for; and that in return, Ireland would take the manufactures of England, for

Thomas Nowlan,
Esq.

(20 March.)

in proportion as the farmer and landlord of Ireland prospered, would they be good customers to this country for its manufactures.

It is the present price of malt, that to a great extent prevents an active intercourse in that article between this country and Ireland?—That particular branch, is one that I feel myself least prepared to speak to; there are particular counties which export malt, that I am not much acquainted with.

Jovis, 22^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. John Maughan;

Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
John Maughan.

(22 March.)

WHERE do you reside?—At Oswestry, in the county of Salop.

You are considerably employed as a land surveyor, in the superintendence of property in Wales, in Cheshire, in Shropshire, in Warwickshire, and Worcestershire?—I am.

What is your opinion of the present state of agricultural distress?—In general, it is very great.

To what amount do you conceive there has been a depreciation in the value of land, since the year 1813?—In point of rent on arable land, to about thirty per cent since the year 1812; land began to fall in 1813.

Does the distress more particularly arise on the arable land, or the grazing land?—Much greater on arable land than on grazing land.

Have you any statement of a farm you yourself valued in Suffolk?—I have; it is near Woodbridge; it is a farm of 1,800 acres.

What is the nature of the soil?—All light soil; a great deal very poor, and not much of it good.

Is it more upon those lands on which a considerable capital has been employed, than on other lands?—Principally on lands where a great deal of capital has been employed.

Do you think that the distress falls so heavily on small farms in Wales, where there is less capital employed?—No; the great distress in Wales, I think, was about three or four years ago, owing to bad seasons and the disappointments of the crops. There were several emigrations from Wales at that time to America; but, during the last three seasons, Wales, I think, has been recovering.

Partly owing to their having a better price for lean stock?—From there being a better price for lean stock, and from their having better seasons; the corn has ripened kinder; and, though the price has been low, they have had a greater quantity.

Have the goodness to suggest to the Committee, what you think would tend to the relief of the present pressure on agriculture?—A higher protecting duty.

Do you mean, under the present existing law, in the same manner to extend the averages?—No; I should take an importation price.

Do you mean a permanent duty?—A permanent duty of so much a quarter.

Do you mean to say, that the present laws are ineffectual, and that the laying duty on corn imported, would be the most efficient way of removing the difficulties under which the agricultural interest labours?—I think it would; that the present corn laws do not go to the extent they ought; that people have no security for laying out their capital to the extent to which they would otherwise lay it out.

To what amount, taking wheat, would you propose that duty to be?—I should propose to keep wheat as nearly as can be, at 10s. the Winchester bushel.

What duty would you propose to be permanent on a quarter, or a bushel of wheat?—Perhaps, four shillings a bushel.

Are you not aware, that foreign corn can be imported here, at a much less price than six shillings a bushel?—I believe it can.

Then

Then four shillings a bushel, according to your view of the case, would not answer the purpose?—That would bring it up to ten shillings.

Have you any knowledge of the present prices of corn in the foreign market?—Not precisely.

How long ago was it that you went over the land you refer to, in the neighbourhood of Woodbridge?—About five years ago.

Did you go over it for the purpose of valuing it as to rent?—I did.

What did you fix the rent, five years ago, of that land at?—I considered that, if corn could be sold at 10 s. a bushel, which was more than it was at that time, the rent of the farm might be fairly fixed at 1,050 l. a year; it was then under 10 s. a bushel. I drew out a scale at 8 s. 9 s. and 10 s.

Are you aware, that since that time, that rent has been still lowered?—That rent, I believe, never was got for the land: there was a less rent taken than 1,050 l. a year, in consequence of the price of corn being under 10 s. a bushel.

What is the rent now paid for that land?—900 l. a year.

Are you aware that the tenant of that land states, that every shilling of his last two years rent has been paid out of capital?—I think that must have been the effect of his holding that particular kind of land, and the operation of it.

Has the tenant stated to you, what the reduction of his rent ought to be, in order to enable him to pay it at all?—I think something about one fourth, between one third and one fourth.

Do you know at all, whether the land in that part of the country is in danger of being thrown out of cultivation, in consequence of the deficiency of the means of the farmer to keep it in cultivation?—Titheable as that land is, I think it is impossible for any one to keep it in cultivation at the present prices.

If you have no precise information respecting the present prices of corn in foreign markets, upon what ground can you estimate the amount of duty that would be a sufficient protection against foreign importation?—I only know this, that corn cannot be grown in this country, taking all the expenses upon it, tithes and poor rates, and every outgoing, to remunerate the farmer, and to enable him to pay rent for his land, at less than 10 s. a bushel. I do not know exactly what the price of corn is abroad; I know what it is here, it is between six and seven shillings a bushel, and the farmer is a considerable loser by all the corn he grows.

You have stated your opinion, that Wales is not so much distressed as England is generally?—There is a great variety of land in Wales; a great deal of it is breeding stock land, managed at a very little expense; the tenants live very frugally, and they pay their rents more regularly; they are less distressed in their way of living, than in any other part of the kingdom I know of.

Is that tillage land or pasture land?—Pasture land of rather an inferior value.

Has the price of breeding stock and cattle fallen in the same proportion as corn, within the last four or five years?—It has rather risen.

Within what time?—Within the last three years they were selling stock remarkably low to buy bread; the country got very thin of stock, and the prices have rather advanced than decreased.

Are the Committee to understand, that the tillage land in Wales is, generally speaking, in a state of greater difficulty than the pasture land?—I think much greater difficulty.

From what cause?—From its being subject to heavier outgoings, heavier tithes, and heavier expenses.

Of what nature are those expenses?—The seed, the labour, the manure, draining, tithes, and a variety of other expenses, that every farmer must be subject to, who cultivates that kind of land.

What are the poor rates on land of that description?—Taking them in a general way, I think the poor rates may be about one fifth of the rent; rather more perhaps, two ninths.

What do you suppose is the proportion of poor maintained upon the arable land, as contrasted with the number maintained upon the pasture land?—The arable land and pasture land is a great deal intermixed in the same district; the arable land a good deal confined to the valleys, and the pasture land to the hills; so that it would be impossible to say what proportion; some of Wales is connected with the working of lead mines, and particularly Flintshire.

Can you state the annual amount of labour per acre, on the arable land?—Upon a farm principally arable, the amount of labour I think may be about 20 s. to 22 s. an acre.

Mr.
John Maughan.

(22 March.)

What should you state to be the amount of labour on the pasture land?—Very little.

You stated 10 s. a bushel, to be a remunerating price for corn?—I think that would just about save the farmer; taking the expenses he is at, the rates and every thing.

Do you not think that a less price would be a remunerating price, if the charges of cultivation were much diminished?—Certainly.

Do you not expect that the charges of cultivation will be diminished, by a fall in the expenses of smith's work, farrier's expenses, wheelwright's, and so on?—Some little.

When you said, that four shillings a bushel was necessary as a protection to the British farmer, on the importation of foreign corn, you must have estimated the price abroad at six shillings a bushel?—Yes, I should consider it so; but I am not acquainted exactly with the prices abroad; but wheat in Worcester, this last year, has averaged about 6 s. 7 d. a Winchester bushel.

It is evident that you can make no calculation of this kind, without being acquainted with the prices in foreign markets?—I have made no calculation but that which would bring out a fair rent of land, from wheat at 10 s. a bushel; below that I conceive a great deal of the poor land of this country would not be worth cultivating, paying no rent at all.

If you know nothing of the price of corn in the foreign markets, is it not possible it may be there 12 s. a bushel, and here only 6 s. a bushel?—Then I think it could not be brought here.

When has it been brought here?—Corn is warehoused to a very great extent in this country, which must have been brought hither.

Do you think the circumstance of corn being warehoused in this country, has any effect upon the market price of free corn?—I should think it had.

Although it does not come to market?—Yes.

Do you know what the rent of land was in 1790, compared with the present time?—Lower than it is at present.

How much lower?—I think nearly thirty per cent.

What would be a remunerating price for corn, on the best land you know of, if no rent were paid upon it?—There may be some spots of very fine tillage, and certain productive lands that lie open and that are fit for wheat, where the taxes are low, upon which wheat might be grown perhaps for 7 s. a bushel, without rent.

If a farmer were relieved from poor's rates and tithes, would rent rise, or would the price of corn fall?—It is very difficult to say.

What is the relative price of labour now, and the price in 1790?—In 1790, labourers in the midland parts of the country were paid seven shillings and eight shillings a week; in the same counties they now receive ten shillings and eleven shillings.

Is the condition of the labourers worse or better now than it was then?—I think much about the same; I think there is very little difference.

Do you think the capital of the farmer is much decreased within these three or four years?—I think, speaking of a great many farmers upon the inferior soils, their capital is entirely exhausted.

In your opinion, are the poor rates in Wales, generally speaking, on the rise or fall?—Rather upon the fall.

What should you state to be the case, in that respect, upon the arable land?—I never separated the arable from the pasture, but taking a very large estate together.

Was it the practice of the farmers formerly, to make a general allowance of beer to their labourers?—In Wales they make no allowance, except that in harvest they may give them a little.

Did they ever make an allowance?—No, I do not know that in Wales they ever did.

Does beer form a part of the daily diet of the labourers in Wales?—No.

Did it ever in your recollection?—No; I do not recollect that it did.

What is their daily beverage?—Butter milk.

You have spoken of the system of warehousing foreign corn, as in your opinion having a prejudicial effect on the British corn market, though foreign corn does not come actually into competition; do you mean then, that it has a prejudicial effect from depriving the British corn grower of the full benefit of the capital of the British merchant?—I think it prevents speculation in corn.

Does speculation in corn tend to raise its average price?—It creates a demand for a time, which I think is very much wanted at present.

Does

Does not the employment of the capital of the middle man rather tend to lower the price of corn to the consumer, than to raise it?—I cannot answer that; it requires some little consideration.

In the event of a superabundant year in England, do you not think that the British corn merchant would be more inclined to speculate with the British corn growers, so as to prepare for the event of a deficient year succeeding to a superabundant one, if the warehousing system were done away?—I think he would.

Supposing the warehousing system were done away in England; might it not be adopted at Ostend and other places on the opposite side?—I am not aware.

If the warehousing system should be adopted in the continental ports, could not the British merchant speculate in the same manner there as he does in England?—He might, unless he was prevented by a high duty when it came into this country.

Do you think he would have equal knowledge of the amount of corn warehoused in a foreign land, as he might obtain from the natural channels of information when warehoused in his own?—I think if he had any idea a change would take place in the price of corn, he would soon get the information; for he would naturally seek after it.

Are you conversant with the state of agriculture in North Wales, and different parts of Worcestershire and Herefordshire?—Not much in Herefordshire.

From your observation, are you able to state whether the crop of wheat last year was an abundant or a deficient crop?—From the accounts I have received, I apprehend it was rather more than an average crop.

Does an abundant crop affect the price more than in proportion to its increased quantity?—A good deal of that depends upon the state of the preceding year, and the quantity of corn in the country.

Has the quantity of land under the cultivation of barley, increased or lessened of late years?—I cannot exactly say.

Do you believe there is an increasing avidity in Wales to cultivate wheat?—No; I do not think there is; I think it does not increase; I think there was nearly as much land cultivated in Wales years ago, as now.

Which is the most remunerating species of corn?—It depends upon the nature of the land; whether it is wheat land, or barley land, or oat land.

Do you collect rents for several gentlemen?—I do.

How are the rents paid?—The rents are paid in Wales better than in England; where the rents have been regularly fixed in Wales, they cannot be better paid, as far as I receive rents.

What should you state as the average produce of wheat and barley per acre, throughout Wales generally?—There is such a great variety of land, that unless you made an average, it would be impossible to answer that question; some of the best lands produce thirty-five to forty bushels an acre, on particular spots in very confined districts, but the generality of land there will not produce fifteen bushels; the rent varies from sixpence an acre to 3 *l.* an acre.

Then in that case, by far the greater part of Wales must go rapidly out of cultivation, if the present prices of corn were to continue?—Undoubtedly, there is no man can cultivate it.

In those counties of England you have mentioned, has the use of wheat corn among the labouring classes declined?—There are more potatoes used and less wheat.

In those parts you are acquainted with, has the value of land dropped as to the number of years purchase?—Not a great deal as to the number of years purchase.

What is the common food of labourers in Wales, is it wheat bread?—No; oat cakes, potatoes and butter milk; there is very little wheat eaten in Wales.

Do you think, from your general information, that the labouring poor in Wales are materially in a worse condition than they were formerly?—I do not think they are; I think they are better considerably within the last three years than they were the preceding, for the preceding seasons they were driven to great distress, and could hardly get food in some places; but they are rather better off, and they are a frugal set of people, they live on food of a very cheap kind, and they depend a good deal upon their own manufactures.

What is the price of potatoes there now?—I cannot speak to that generally, in some parts from eighteen pence to two shillings a bushel.

What is the amount of capital that you would state, as requisite that a man should possess, upon entering upon a farm of either a hundred or two hundred acres, two-thirds of which should be arable and one-third pasture?—From seven to ten pounds

Mr.
John Maughan.

(22 March.)

an acre in general; there is a great deal less capital than that employed; but those people who employ less capital must do the work badly.

What should you state was the amount of capital required in the same proportion on a farm of pasture land only?—If it is good feeding land, it would require perhaps a greater capital; if it is inferior land it would require a smaller capital.

Then it is the arable land that requires the greatest capital?—It requires greater cultivation, and of course greater capital.

Greater capital as balanced against the light pasture land?—Considerably.

Do you know what has been the average price of butter in the part of Wales you are acquainted with, for some years past?—From the information I have had from the farmers, the price of salt butter in the country has been from nine pence to ten pence a pound.

In the last year?—In the year 1820, about nine pence.

Do you know what it was in the year 1819?—It was lower in 1815; the farmers were so distressed they were obliged to sell at whatever they could get.

Then the butter was not so low in 1820, as it was in 1819?—No; it rather rose.

Do you know what was the depreciation in pigs?—One sixth; great part of the rents in parts of Wales, are paid by pigs.

You are understood to state, that the rents in Wales are much better paid, than the rents in England?—More regularly paid.

Can you state the reason?—There is less capital employed in Wales, and the rents have been fixed according to the natural produce, which is kept up better and more steadily than artificial produce; Wales got very thin of cattle at one time, and they recovered their cattle; it is rather thin of cattle now, and that is I think one reason why the price is kept up.

Do you mean to state, that they sent away their cattle before they were in a situation for the market, in order to pay their rents?—Not only to pay their rents, but to get bread.

Then they were in a state of extreme poverty?—They were at that time, but they are recovering.

Of what year are you speaking now?—Of the year 1817; there were two or three very bad years.

How much per acre should a farmer make by the gross sale of his wheat crop, in order to obtain a remunerating price?—Not less than 10*l.* an acre; on inferior lands cultivated at a great expense, 10*l.* an acre will not pay him.

Mr. *Litchfield Tabrum*; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
Litchfield Tabrum.

(22 March.)

YOU are a farmer?—I am.

Where do you reside?—At High Roothing, in the district of Dunmow, in the county of Essex.

Are you prepared to give in a statement to show to the Committee agricultural distress?—I have a statement of my expenses and receipts for the last ten years.

[*The Witness delivered in the statement, which was read, as follows:*]

Mr.
Litchfield Tabrum.

(22 March.)

A STATEMENT of Bury Farm, in High Roothing, in the County of Essex, containing Five Hundred Acres; showing the Receipts and Disbursements for ten years, as under; by Swan and Litchfield Tabrum.

Received for WHEAT, in Four Years.

In the Year	N ^o A. Q.	B. P. per Acre.	Average per Bushel. s. d.	Average per Acre. £. s. d.	Total Amount. £. s. d.
1810 - - -	110 2	22 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	11 11 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,277 8 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1811 - - -	107 0	15 — $\frac{1}{4}$	14 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	10 19 4	1,173 3 8
1812 - - -	114 2	20 3	15 —	15 11 3	1,781 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1813 - - -	97 2	27 0	9 —	12 3 —	1,184 12 6
Average - -	107 1	21 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 2	12 11 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,354 5 8

BARLEY, for Four Years.

1810 - - -	114 2	42 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	11 — 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,260 6 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1811 - - -	84 0	22 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 13 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	478 3 9
1812 - - -	103 2	21 2	8 7	9 4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	955 — — $\frac{1}{2}$
1813 - - -	101 2	32 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 7	9 2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	926 14 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Average - -	100 3	29 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 15 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	905 1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$

WHEAT, for Six Years.

1814 - - -	112 2	13 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 2 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	575 5 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1815 - - -	103 2	17 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 3 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	744 0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1816 - - -	117 2	15 2	11 3	8 14 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,024 9 1
1817 - - -	144 0	14 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 11 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,094 2 —
1818 - - -	98 2	24 2	9 7	11 14 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,156 6 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
1819 - - -	120 0	21 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 3	8 15 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,053 7 6
Average - -	116 0	17 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	941 5 1 $\frac{3}{4}$

BARLEY, for Six Years.

1814 - - -	87 0	41 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 7 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	819 9 10
1815 - - -	104 0	44 2	3 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 12 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	795 7 8
1816 - - -	88 2	38 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 3	12 1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	988 3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1817 - - -	56 0	28 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 10	8 6 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	467 10 10
1818 - - -	70 0	21 0	7 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	566 11 3
1819 - - -	98 2	33 1	4 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 16 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	770 19 4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Average - -	84 0	34 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 17 10	734 13 8 $\frac{3}{4}$

The Average Receipt for Four Years, ending October 1814:

Wheat - - - - -	1,354 5 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Barley - - - - -	905 1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
The annual value of sixteen acres of wood, and all other receipts, for cattle, &c. - - - - -	909 4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Average Receipts for four years

£. 3,168 11 2

The Average Disbursements, for d^o by Rent, Tithes, Taxes, Rates, Tradesmen's Bills, Labour, Seed Corn, &c. - - - - -

2,737 5 4

Leaving a balance of - - - - -

£. 431 5 10

The Average Receipts for Six Years, ending October 1820.

Wheat - - - - -	941 5 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Barley - - - - -	734 13 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
The annual value of sixteen acres of wood, and all other receipts, for cattle, &c. - - - - -	705 7 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

The Average Receipts for Six Years

£. 2,381 6 3 $\frac{1}{4}$

The Average Disbursements for d^o by Rent, Tithe, Taxes, Rates, Tradesmen's Bills, Labour, Seed, &c. - - - - -

2,534 9 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

£. 153 2 9 $\frac{1}{4}$

Leaving an annual Loss for the six years, besides the Interest of Capital, £. 4,500, which is now reduced full one-third in value.

Litchfield Tabrum.

Mr.
Litchfield Tabrum.

(22 March.)

Is your land all strong heavy land?—It is.

Is it land that requires draining previous to cultivation?—It is.

Is it land of very expensive cultivation?—It is.

Of what quality?—A clay bottom.

Of what quality in point of fertility?—About the average of the quality in the county.

In your calculation for the four years ending 1813, have you allowed for interest of money?—I have not.

What do the tithes and poor rates amount to, for those four years?—I am not prepared to answer that question; I have put them all together.

What have you charged for your own support?—Nothing.

Or for your family?—No.

Have you supplied your own family out of the farm without notice of that?—No, I charge in my farm account whatever articles I use in my family.

Was your crop of wheat last year, an average crop?—It was not.

What do you suppose it was deficient of an average crop?—We call an average crop, two quarters six bushels.

What was it last year?—I cannot say what it was, for I have not thrashed it all.

Was it mildewed?—Part of it was.

Do you know from your neighbours, what their average produce was?—No; I should suppose two quarters and a half.

Did not your land suffer last year very much from the mildew?—Some of it.

What is the rent of your land?—20*s.* per acre.

In the last three years, has the general cultivation in your county deteriorated, or otherwise?—It is deteriorating now at this present time.

Since when?—For the last two years.

Has the number of hands employed by the farmer in your neighbourhood, increased or decreased?—It has decreased very much, except in my own instance; I have employed, many times, men to keep them from the parish; being a very small parish, the rates come very heavily upon myself.

Has the rate of wages fallen?—Very much.

What were they, and what are they now?—They were 12*s.* now they are 8*s.*

In what situation are your labourers; are they better off now, or worse?—Much worse.

Have they changed their mode of living; do they feed more upon potatoes or barley than they did when they had higher wages?—I never knew them to eat barley; but potatoes they resort to very much at this time.

If these low prices of corn should continue, what do you conceive will be the effect upon the general state of agriculture in your part of the country?—It is universally lowering.

Are you in the habit of purchasing manure of any kind?—I am.

Of what kind?—Kiln dust; what is made from making of malt.

Do you suppose the general purchase of adventitious sources of manure, by the farmers, has lessened within these two or three years?—I do not know any one that does it besides myself in the parish.

In your opinion, is the general state of cultivation considerably worse within the last two years?—Considerably worse.

What markets do you sell your corn at?—Stortford and Chelmsford; the one is a capital market for barley, and the other for wheat.

What is the price of barley now at Stortford?—It is from a guinea to 27*s.* a quarter.

What should you state as the price of barley; not speaking of malting barley, but grinding barley?—23*s.* per quarter.

Is there no barley sold under that rate at Stortford?—Yes; I have sold barley as low as 22*s.* at Stortford, for malting.

What is the least return per acre a farmer ought to make by the gross sale of his crop of wheat, in order to obtain a remunerating profit?—11*l.*

Is your soil all a strong soil?—It is.

Do you confine your opinion to your own particular farm?—I do.

Can you give the Committee the particulars of the charges of the outgoings of your farm; such as rent, tithes, poor rates, and tradesmen's bills?—I am not prepared to answer that question here; but I can do it from my bills when I return home.

Do you recollect whether your tradesmen's bills have fallen within the last three years?—They have fallen very little indeed.

When

When you say that your capital is diminished about one-third, do you mean that the quantity of stock is diminished one-third, or that the value of your stock is diminished one-third?—The value of them.

Is the quantity as great as before?—About the same; but it must be reduced unless the times alter for the better.

How long have you rented this farm?—My father and myself have held it twenty-five years.

What was the rent twenty-five years ago?—15 s. an acre.

What is it now?—20 s.

When was it raised from 15 s.?—Four years ago.

It was not raised from 15 s. till four years ago?—No, it was not.

Was it on a long lease at that time?—A twenty-one years lease.

It was on the expiration of that lease, that the rent was increased?—Yes.

Is your present lease for any length of time?—A fourteen years lease.

You hold it under a lease for fourteen years, at 20 s. an acre?—Yes.

State whether your tradesmen's charges are reduced in any proportion to the reduction in the price of corn?—They are not.

Do the farmers amongst themselves take any steps towards the reduction of the tradesmen's bills?—There has been no meeting upon the subject.

Do you not conceive it is the fault of the farmer, if those bills are not reduced?—When I have endeavoured myself individually, to lessen my own tradesmen's bills, their excuse is, that the commodities they trade by, are as expensive as they were; the blacksmiths in particular.

Have not those tradesmen raised their demands very much in the course of the last twenty-five years?—Not materially, I conceive, during the time I can recollect; I cannot carry my memory so far back as twenty-five years.

Was the account you have delivered in, made out by yourself?—It was.

Can you give in a statement of the particulars of your expenses, for the same period?—I do not know that I could for quite so far back; for fifteen years, I feel convinced I could.

Was it ever the practice in the county in which you reside, to apportion the labourers to the several occupations of the parish?—I believe it has been, but not within my own immediate knowledge; I have heard of it, but I cannot name any particular place.

Is it the practice in your neighbourhood to give the labourers beer?—It is.

Has that practice fallen off, or continued?—It continues in my own neighbourhood.

To the same extent as formerly?—There is not so much ale given them as formerly.

But you still continue to give them small beer?—Yes.

Do you mean, that you give it throughout the year every day, or only at particular times of the year, at harvest and hay-making time?—They have it every day.

Is that the practice throughout Essex, generally?—Generally speaking, I believe it is; except in some instances near London, I believe they do not give beer.

You mentioned, that your farm is on a clay soil, and you mentioned, as part of the expense of it, draining; what kind of draining do you apply?—We are adopting the mole plough system.

How often do you do that?—It is a new thing; I have only tried it for two years.

Does it answer?—It answers remarkably well.

How deep does it go?—About twenty inches.

How many horses do you use?—Twenty-four horses.

Do you apply it on your corn lands, or only on your grass lands?—On the corn lands.

How many horses do you keep on your five hundred acres?—From sixteen to eighteen.

What do you estimate the cost of the mole plough by the acre?—About 18 s. an acre.

How many rods do they do in a day?—They can do eight or nine acres per day.

How much would a man do in a day, if it were done by manual labour?—He would do about twenty rods per day.

What is the difference of expense between draining an acre by hands, and draining by the mole plough?—It is about 2 s. less expense per acre the labour, besides the saving of the straw and bushes.

Mr.
Litchfield Tabrum.
(22 March.)

You state, that you have sixteen or eighteen horses upon your farm; what should you state as the total amount of the keep of those horses annually?—I am not prepared to state that.

How much flour does a labourer consume per week, do you conceive?—A peck a week.

Is that for himself, or a labourer with a family?—For each man.

Mr. *John Ellman*, junior; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.
(22 March.)

WHERE do you reside?—I reside at Southover, near Lewes.

You occupy a considerable farm?—I do.

State what are the expenses of cultivating land of 10s. an acre, producing twenty bushels of wheat per acre?—Perhaps, it will be necessary for me to state, why I have drawn out the account in this way, instead of giving the account of my own farm. I am an occupier of about 1,200 acres of land; but as is known to some gentlemen of this Committee, I have had a price for my sheep, and now have much above the common market price; and I felt it perfectly impossible to separate what I call the fancy price from the real price, so that I have made out an account applying to a general average of the county, and for that I took another hundred acres in a different part of the county altogether. My statement, is applicable I conceive, not to Sussex only, but to the whole kingdom. I have authentic documents, which will I think, prove it to be correct. Perhaps it may be necessary to state, I had no communication with my father upon the evidence he has given, or which I am about to give.

Do you act as a land agent?—I do not.

Can you inform the Committee, from your own knowledge, of either the cultivation of your own farm or some other you are acquainted with, what you conceive is the cost at which twenty-five acres of wheat could be cultivated, being a four course shift. First, what is the production of the twenty-five acres?—Taking land of twenty bushels an acre, and putting wheat at 56s. per quarter, which is two shillings above the gazette price at present, is 175*l.*; the next, taking them in the courses, is ten acres of clover mown for hay, average a ton an acre, which I put at the feeding price 50s., not being allowed to be sent off the farm; the next, ten acres of peas, average twenty bushels per acre, twenty-five quarters at the present price, 32s. per quarter, 40*l.*; the next, to make up that course, I put five acres of tares mown for horses, of course nothing more but the expense of the horses; I do not charge the expense of producing them, nor any thing for the produce. I next come to the third year; twenty-five acres of oats average thirty-two bushels per acre, 100 quarters at 2s. 3*d.* per bushel, or 18s. per quarter, 90*l.* I next take the ten acres of clover mown a second time for seed, averaging three bushels at 35s. per bushel, amounting to fifty guineas. Pigs and poultry per annum I put at 20*l.*; the total annual produce on land of this description is 402*l.* 10s., from which, I deduct as tithe one-tenth, leaving the net produce 362*l.* 5s.

What are the expenses?—The expenses of the seed, calculating the seed at the same prices, except the variation there always is between seed-corn and other corn, which is a shilling a bushel on wheat, and other corn in proportion, is 65*l.* 12s. 6*d.*; the haymaking, 4*l.* 5s.; the harvesting, 25*l.* 17s. 6*d.*; the thrashing the corn, is 28*l.* 3s. 4*d.*; the annual labourers, 90*l.* 8s.; the expense of the team, 53*l.* 16s.; the wear and tear, chiefly occasioned by the team, 35*l.*; the rates, by which I mean poor's rates, highway rate, church rate and county rate, 365*l.*; the assessed taxes on the four horses, and the window tax on the farm house, which I call ten windows, altogether, six guineas; half the wheat season is manured with dung from the farm, for which nothing is charged, nothing being charged for straw; the other half is manured with lime, 180 bushels to the acre, at four pence a bushel, 37*l.* 10s.; that is the annual expense; the capital employed in purchasing stock and implements, 264*l.*; there will be then to be paid to the outgoing tenant, for ploughing the wheat season, 210*l.* 12s. 6*d.*; I charge the interest upon all of it at 10 per cent.

What is the capital you charge for 100 acres?—857*l.* 9s. 10*d.*

What is the result?—The result is, that at the present gazette prices of produce, that is something more than the gazette prices, there is an annual loss, exclusive of any rent upon land subject to these expenses, of 106*l.* 7s. 4*d.*; I have always considered rent as a surplus remaining according to contract between landlord and tenant.

Are the lands rented?—To my knowledge, in many cases, the present tenants can pay

pay no rent, and the landlords do not turn them out, because they can get no other persons to take the farm.

What do you conceive would be a fair rent of land of this quality, producing twenty bushels, if corn was at 72 s. to 80 s.?—It could pay no rent at all at 72 s. it must go out of cultivation unless the expenses could be reduced.

At what price would rent commence?—I take it at 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24; rent would commence on this lowest description of land at 80 s.

At what price would it commence at the other extremity?—I take it at 21, putting the produce at what is called the import price, that is 80 s. for wheat; 53 s. for beans and peas; and 27 s. for oats; I have found that the produce of land, yielding twenty-one bushels per acre, would be 599 l. 16 s. 3 d.; from which deduct the tithe 59 l. 19 s. 7½ d. leaving 539 l. 16 s. 7½ d.; expenses as before 517 l. 3 s. 6½ d. leaving as rent 22 l. 13 s. 1 d. or 5 s. 0½ d.; calculating 10 per cent of course for the tenant.

Land producing 21 bushels, would give only 5 s. per acre?—No more.

Do you mean to say, that under the remunerating price of the law, that is all that can be asked?—Yes; taking the wheat at 80 s.; and beans and peas at 53 s.; I consider generally, the land in the county of Sussex to vary from 20 to 24 bushels.

Does not it follow from your calculation, that it is very bad policy to employ that land in fallows?—The land in the weald of Sussex could not be cultivated without.

What would it be in land producing 22 bushels?—The result will be, that the rent will be 10 s. an acre on land of 22 bushels; on the second description of land of 21 bushels, taking the total produce and deducting the tenth for the tithe; the clergyman takes 59 l. 19 s. whereas the landlord takes only 22 l. 13 s. 1 d.; so that the clergyman takes nearly three times as much as the landlord.

[The Witness delivered in the statement, which was read, as follows:]

STATEMENT of Expenses and Produce of 100 Acres of Arable Land in the Weald of Sussex, exclusive of Rent.

	£.	s.	d.
Seed Wheat - - 25 acres at 3 bushels per acre, 75 bushels at 8 s.			
per bushel - - - - -	30	0	0
Seed Clover - - 10 acres, 2½ gallons per acre, 25 gallons at 4 s. 6 d.			
per gallon - - - - -	5	12	6
Seed Peas - - - 10 acres, 5 bushels per acre, 50 bushels at 4 s. 6 d.			
per bushel - - - - -	11	5	0
Seed Tares - - 5 acres (saved on farm, the other tares mown for horses.)			
Seed Oats - - - 25 acres, 6 bushels per acre, 150 bushels at 2 s. 6 d.	18	15	0
	£. 65	12	6
HAYMAKING:			
Mowing 10 acres of seeds, at 2 s. 6 d. per acre - - - - -	1	5	0
Extra expense of making hay, by hiring extra hands at 5 s. per ton - - - - -	2	10	0
Thatching D° - - - - -	0	10	0
	£. 4	5	0
HARVEST:			
Reaping 25 acres of wheat, at 10 s. per acre - - - - -	12	10	0
Mowing 10 acres of seed clover, at 2 s. 6 d. - - - - -	1	5	0
Mowing 10 acres of peas, at 4 s. - - - - -	2	0	0
Mowing 25 acres of oats, at 2 s. 6 d. - - - - -	3	2	6
Extra harvest on 60 acres, corn, at 2 s. per acre - - - - -	6	0	0
Thatching corn and seed clover stack - - - - -	1	0	0
	£. 25	17	6
THRESHING:			
62 qrs. 4 bush. of wheat, at 3 s. per quarter - - - - -	9	7	6
30 bushels of clover, at 6 s. per bushel - - - - -	9	0	0
25 quarters of peas, at 2 s. 6 d. per quarter - - - - -	3	2	6
100 quarters of oats, at 1 s. 4 d. per quarter - - - - -	6	13	4
	£. 28	3	4

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.

(22 March.)

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.

(22 March.)

ANNUAL LABOURERS :

	£.	s.	d.
1 head carter at 13 s. per week, 52 weeks	33	16	0
1 under d° and jobbing man, at 9 s. d°	23	8	0
1 boy - - - at 4 s.	10	8	0
1 d° - - - at 3 s.	7	16	0
Women and children weeding corn, &c.	5	0	0
	£. 80	8	0

Beer for workmen, per annum	10	0	0
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TEAM :

To keep of 4 horses, from old Michaelmas to the middle of May, 32 weeks, at 2 bushels per horse per week, 32 quarters at 18 s.	28	16	0
To keep of d° from middle of May till old Michaelmas, 20 weeks, at 1 bushel per horse per week, 10 quarters at 18 s.	9	0	0
Estimated wear of horses, at 4 l. per annum each	16	0	0
	£. 53	16	0

WEAR AND TEAR :

Smith's bill per annum	12	0	0
Wheelwright's d°	10	0	0
Carpenter's d°	5	0	0
Collar maker's d°	4	0	0
Farrier's d°	4	0	0
	£. 35	0	0

RATES :

Poor rate, 5 s. per acre, on 100 acres	25	0	0
Highway rate, 1 s. 3 d. per acre on d°	6	5	0
Church rate, 6 d. d° d°	2	10	0
County rate, 6 d. d° d°	2	10	0
	£. 36	5	0

TAXES :

Assessed taxes, 4 horses at 17 s. 6 d.	3	10	0
Window tax on farinhouse, ten windows	2	16	0
	£. 6	6	0

MANURES :

12½ acres for wheat, manured with dung raised on farm	0	0	0
12½ d° for wheat, manured with lime, 180 bushels per acre, at 4 d. per bushel	£. 37	10	0

STOCK AND TACKLING :

4 cart horses, at 25 l. each	100	0	0
Harness for 4 horses, 1 extra hind harness	15	0	0
2 waggons, 1 at 40 l. 1 at 20 l.	60	0	0
3 carts, at 10 l. each	30	0	0
Ploughs	15	0	0
Harrows	6	0	0
2 drag harrows	6	0	0
2 rollers	10	0	0
Sundry tools	5	0	0
Winnowing machine, sieves, &c.	10	0	0
Sacks, 40 at 3 s. 6 d.	7	0	0
	£. 264	0	0

EXPENSE of coming into Farm :

25 Acres, ploughed three times at 14 s.	52	10	0
— harrowed twelve times at 4½ d.	5	12	6
— rolled twice, at 1 s.	2	10	0
1 Year's poor tax on 25 acres, 6 s.	7	10	0
350 Loads of dung, 2 s. 6 d.	43	15	0
Carrying out of ditto, previously to Michaelmas, 1 s.	17	10	0
Lime for 12½ acres, 180 bushels per acre, at 4 d.	37	10	0
Carriage of ditto, previously to Michaelmas, at 2 d.	18	15	0
10 Ton of hay, at seeding price, 2 s. 10 d.	25	0	0
	£. 210	12	6

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.

(22 March.)

RECAPITULATION:

	£.	s.	d.
Seed corn, pulse, and clover - - - - -	65	12	6
Haymaking - - - - -	4	5	0
Harvest - - - - -	25	17	6
Threshing - - - - -	28	3	4
Annual labourers - - - - -	80	2	0
Beer for workmen - - - - -	10	0	0
Team - - - - -	53	16	0
Wear and tear - - - - -	35	0	0
Rates - - - - -	36	5	0
Taxes - - - - -	6	6	0
Manure - - - - -	37	10	0
	<u>£. 382</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>

ANNUAL PRODUCE:

25 Acres of wheat, average 20 bushels per acre, 62 quarters, 4 bushels, at 7 s. per bushel, or 56 s. per quarter - - - - -	175	0	0
10 Acres of clover, mown for hay, average 1 ton per acre, 10 ton, feeding price £. 2. 10 s. - - - - -	25	0	0
10 Acres of peas, average 20 bushels per acre, 25 quarters, at 4 s. per bushel, or 32 s. per quarter - - - - -	40	0	0
5 Acres of tares, mown for horses, except a few saved for seed - - - - -	—		
25 Acres of Oats, average 32 bushels per acre, 100 quarters at 2 s. 3 d. per bushel, or 18 s. per quarter - - - - -	90	0	0
10 Acres of clover saved for seed, average 3 bushels per acre, at 35 s. per bushel - - - - -	52	10	0
Pigs and poultry, per annum - - - - -	20	0	0
	<u>£. 402</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>
Deduct for tithe, 1-10th - - - - -	40	5	0
Net produce - - - - -	<u>£. 362</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>

ANNUAL EXPENSES

- - - - -	382	17	4
Interest of live and dead stock, £. 264 at 10 per cent. - - - - -	26	8	0
Interest of money paid to outgoing tenant, on taking the farm, £. 210. 12 s. 6 d. at 10 per cent. - - - - -	21	6	3
Interest of annual expenses, £. 382. 17 s. 4 d. at ditto - - - - -	38	5	9
	<u>£. 468</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>
Annual produce - - - - -	362	5	0
Annual loss, exclusive of rent - - - - -	<u>£. 106</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>

Produce increased from 20 to 23 bushels per acre, and other produce
in proportion - - - - -

- - - - -	656	18	9
Deduct tithe - - - - -	65	13	10½
	<u>591</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10½</u>
Expense as before - - - - -	517	3	6½
Leaving as rent - - - - -	74	1	4

or about 15 s. per acre, on land yielding 23 bushels of wheat per acre.

Produce increased 1-10th, would be - - - - -	628	7	6
Deduct for tithe - - - - -	62	16	9
	<u>565</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>
Expenses as before - - - - -	517	3	6½
Leaving as rent - - - - -	48	7	2½

or 10 s. per acre, on land yielding 22 bushels of wheat per acre.

Produce increased 1-20th, would be - - - - -	599	16	3
Deduct tithe - - - - -	59	19	7½
	<u>539</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>7½</u>
Expenses as before - - - - -	517	3	6½
Leaving as rent - - - - -	22	13	1

or about 5 s. per acre, on land yielding 21 bushels of wheat per acre.

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.
(22 March.)

It thus appears that on land cultivated at this expense, yielding only 20 bushels per acre, even at 80 s. per quarter, the tithe owner takes the whole surplus that remains, after paying expenses of cultivation, including 10 l. per cent on tenant's capital, and leaves nothing as rent for the landlord.

Calculating wheat at 56 s. per quarter; peas at 32 s. per quarter; oats at 18 s. per quarter; clover seed 35 s. per bushel; the following result appears:

	£.	s.	d.
Expense as per account	468	12	4
Wheat 21 bushels per acre, at 7 s. per bushel, and other produce increased in proportion	422	12	6
Deduct tithe	42	5	3
	380	7	3
Balance as loss exclusive of rent	88	5	1
Total expense	468	12	4
Wheat increased to 22 bushels per acre, at 7 s. per bushel, and other produce in proportion	442	15	0
Deduct tithe	44	5	6
	398	9	6
Balance as loss	70	2	10
Present expense	468	12	4
Wheat - - - - to 23 bushels, &c. at 7 s.	462	17	6
Deduct tithe	46	5	9
	416	11	9
Balance as loss	52	0	7
Present expense	468	12	4
Wheat - - - - 24 bushels per acre, at 7 s.	483	0	0
Deduct tithe	48	6	0
	434	14	0
Balance as loss	33	18	4
	468	12	4
Wheat - - - - 25 bushels per acre, 7 s.	503	2	6
Deduct tithe	50	6	3
	452	16	3
Balance as loss	15	16	1
Present expense	468	12	4
Wheat - - - - 26 bushels per acre, 7 s.	523	5	0
Deduct tithe	52	6	6
	470	18	6
Present expense	468	12	4
Surplus on 26 bushels per acre, to pay rent	2	6	2

And other produce in proportion.

Nothing charged extra for reaping or threshing extra quantity.

ANNUAL PRODUCE.

	£.	s.	d.
Wheat 62 quarters 4 bushels, at 72 s. per quarter	225	0	0
Peas 25 quarters, at 48 s.	60	0	0
Oats 100 quarters, at 26 s.	130	0	0
Clover seed 30 bushels, 48 s. per bushel	72	0	0
Clover hay, valued at same price as customary, not being allowed to be taken off the farm, 10 tons at 50 s.	25	0	0
Pigs and poultry	20	0	0
	532	0	0
Deduct for tithe one tenth	53	4	0
	478	16	0

(22 March.)

		£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	- - -	478	16	0
		£.	s.	d.
Increase of seed wheat, 75 bushels at 2s.	- -	7	10	0
Ditto - - seed peas, 50 bushels, 2s.	- -	5	0	0
Ditto - - seed oats, 150 bushels 1s.	- -	7	10	0
Ditto - - seed clover, 25 gallons 1s. 7½d.	- -	2	0	7½
Ditto expense of team, 42 quarters of oats, at 8s.	- -	16	16	0
		38	16	7½
Annual expense as before, including 10l. per cent on additional capital	- - -	468	12	4
		507	8	11½
Balance less than 10 l. per cent	- -	28	12	11½
		507	8	11½
Wheat, 62 quarters 4 bushels, at 80 s. per quarter	- - -	250	0	0
Peas, 25 quarters, at 53 s.	- - -	66	5	0
Oats, 100 ditto at 27 s.	- - -	135	0	0
Clover seed, 30 bushels, at 50 s.	- - -	75	0	0
Clover hay, as before	- - -	25	0	0
Pigs and poultry, as before	- - -	20	0	0
		571	5	0
Deduct Tithes	- -	57	2	6
		514	2	6
		£.	s.	d.
Increase in seed wheat, 75 bushels, at 1 s.	- -	3	15	0
Ditto - - seed peas, 50 bushels at 7½d.	- -	1	11	3
Ditto - - seed oats, 150 ditto, at 1½d.	- -	0	18	9
Ditto - - seed clover, 25 gallons, 3 d.	- -	0	6	3
Ditto - - expense of team, 42 quarters oats, at 1 s.	- -	2	2	0
		8	13	3
Expense as before, including additional Interest	- -	508	10	3½
		517	3	6½
Balance less than 10 per cent	- -	3	1	0½
		517	3	6½

OBSERVATIONS.

Returns of the Agriculturist, to Queries, sent by the Board of Agriculture, in 1813, as to the expense of cultivating 100 acres of arable land.

	Rate.	Wear and Tear.	Labour.	Seed.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
I. General average	38 19 2½	31 2 10¾	161 12 11½	98 17 10
II. Present Sussex D°	36 5 0	35 0 0	148 7 10	65 12 6
	Manure.	Team.	Interest.	Taxes.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
I. General average	37 7 0¾	134 19 8¾	50 5 6	18 1 4
II. Present Sussex D°	37 10 0	53 16 0	42 17 6	6 6 0
			TOTAL.	
			£. s. d.	
I. General average	- - -	- - -	571 6 6	
II. Present Sussex D°	- - -	- - -	425 14 10	

Estimated expense less than the average in 1813 - £.145 11 8

No. I.—Is the average Return of the Kingdom in 1813.

No. II.—Is my Estimate of the expense of cultivating 100 acres in the Weald of Sussex, in 1820.

It appears from the account, as per last page, that, estimating wheat at 80 s. per quarter; oats, at 27s.; peas, at 53s.; and seed clover, at 50s. per bushel; the tenant would not receive quite 10 per cent on his capital, exclusive of any rent, calculating expenses as at present.

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.
(22 March.)

If one calculates the produce at one-fifth more, the expenses remaining the same, the produce would be										£.685	10	0
Deduct as Tithe										68	11	0
Net produce										616	19	0
Expense as before										517	3	6½
Leaving over and above 10 per cent on capital, as rent,												
20 s. on 24 bushels of wheat per acre										99	16	6½

If land of the poorest quality can be made to produce twenty bushels, must not the expense be very considerable in the tillage to bring it to that produce?—Yes, certainly.

Would there be any other mode of tillage, that was less expensive, that would make a better return in rent?—If the land was laid down altogether, there would not be so great an expense.

Would it, as pasture, produce a better rent than it does in corn?—I do not think this species of land would produce rent in either case.

Is the mode of raising this wheat by fallow?—Yes, always.

There is no such thing as doing it by turnip?—No; that is impossible.

Have your expenses been calculated, on the supposition of wheat being at eighty shillings a quarter, and labour accordingly?—No; not the first expenses. I varied the expense, as I calculate the produce; the expense, of course, the farmer selling the wheat at seven shillings, is very different from selling the wheat at nine shillings, varying according to circumstances.

Is this land of a quality that would bear peas once in four years?—Sometimes they may sow peas, and sometimes tares.

Would they be peas that would produce seed?—Yes; land of that nature is much more favourable for peas and for tares than stronger land.

What do you take after peas?—Oats.

What is the quality of the land of which you have been speaking?—The quality of land is generally upon a clay substratum, the depth of the mould varying according to the produce, the average of the Weald of Sussex, taking three-fourths of the county, is nearly all upon the same substratum.

What relation does that land bear to the best lands in other parts of the county, with respect to the quantity produced per acre?—I never heard the quantity produced per acre on any lands, set at more than four quarters on an average, taking one year with another.

In the other calculations you have made, have you regulated the expenses by the price of corn at 72 s. or lower?—I have made three calculations on produce and expense, one at 56 s. another at 72 s. and another at 80 s.

Do you not expect, that all the charges on cultivating land will very much diminish, if the price of corn should keep at the present rate?—I should think they would very much increase.

For what reason do you expect they would increase?—In consequence of the increase of the poor rates.

But supposing that the people had full employment in other occupations, and the poor rates were not to increase, do you then think that the charges of cultivation would be as high as they now are?—Certainly not, if they have full employment in other ways; but I do not see how it is possible that the persons in those situations can have full employment in any other way.

Do you not expect, that blacksmith's bills will very much diminish in amount?—No; certainly not.

Do you not expect, that the price of labour will diminish, if the means of supporting the labourer should become cheaper?—The price of labour may diminish, but the difference will go into the poor rates.

If the price of labour falls on account of provisions falling, must it not necessarily follow, that the labour of the blacksmith must also fall?—That would fall in some degree; but labour constitutes so small a part of the blacksmith's bills, that I should not suppose that would make any material difference.

What constitutes the chief charge in blacksmith's bills?—In the first place the value of the iron, in the second, that of coal.

Is not the value of iron much lower than it was some years ago?—Only for particular purposes; only particular sorts of iron.

If the farmers were relieved from poor rates and tithes, would rent rise, or would the

the price of corn fall?—I have mentioned some land where no rent arises; where any rent at present arises, rent would rise of course.

Supposing that corn were at a remunerating price, and land bore a proportional rent, if the farmer were then relieved from the burthen of poor rates and tithes, would rent rise, or would the price of corn fall?—I consider that rent would rise in particular situations, most certainly.

Would the price of corn fall?—That would depend entirely upon whether we grew enough for our own consumption or not, I should imagine.

If, under the circumstances supposed, a tax were laid on corn grown in this country, would it tend to raise the price of corn, or on the renewal of the lease, diminish the rent to the landlord?—Of course the landlord must be the sufferer in the end in all cases, but as far as regards the tenantry, I have always found, that tenants would be found to give every thing that the land is worth, in consequence of its having been a pleasant employment; in general they would, if protection were granted, give every thing they can, and there has even been such a competition, that I do not think the tenants in general have gained any thing more than a mere subsistence.

Do you think the price of labour depends entirely upon the price of corn?—Certainly not.

Does it not depend upon the price of other commodities used by the labourers?—Yes, certainly; upon the price of stock and several other things.

Are not almost all the articles used by the labourers in this country, except corn, subject to high duties and prohibitions?—Certainly.

Does not this tend to raise the price of those commodities?—Certainly.

What do you think would be an adequate protecting duty to the farmer on the importation of corn, to enable the farmer to get remunerating prices?—I should think, on wheat, nothing less than 40 s. a quarter.

Are you acquainted with the prices of foreign corn at this moment?—Only as having heard them stated, not of my own knowledge.

On what ground do you state it as your opinion, that 40 s. would be a sufficient protecting duty?—From the evidence given by Mr. Scott, and other corn factors, before the Committee of this House in 1814.

That applies to the prices of foreign corn then, but has no reference to the price of foreign corn now?—I believe that there is little difference between the price of foreign corn in 1815 and the price of foreign corn now.

If labour was apportioned according to occupation generally, must not that system be constantly subject to variation, according to the ability of the several occupiers to employ those labourers?—Certainly.

Supposing that system to continue, it must come to this at last, that you must rate every house and cottage within the parish?—Yes.

Upon that supposition the blacksmith, and every other tradesman, must be rated?—Yes.

Might he not then urge the excessive poor rate as a reason against any deduction in the amount of his charges?—Exactly.

What proportion does the labour bestowed on arable land bear to that bestowed on pasture land?—I cannot answer that question at once; but, after paying great attention to the subject, I have prepared a statement, dividing a quarter of wheat, to show what part the manual labour constitutes, what part horse labour, and so on.

[The Witness delivered in a statement, which was read, as follows:]

Expense of raising the Quarter of Wheat, exclusive of Rent, on land of twenty bushels per acre, divided into hundredths.

	100 th	£.	s.	d.
Manual labour - - - -	29 or per qr.	1	3	3
Horse labour - - - -	21 or per qr.	0	16	9
Seed - - - -	18 or per qr.	0	14	4
Interest - - - -	17 or per qr.	0	13	6
Manure - - - -	7 or per qr.	0	5	8
Rate - - - -	7 or per qr.	0	5	8
Taxes direct - - - -	1 or per qr.	0	0	10
		£.	4	0 0

N. B.—The same proportion will exist on land yielding 24 bushels of wheat per acre, only that it can be raised on such land at 64 s. per quarter, exclusive of any rent.

Mr.
J. Ellman, jun.
(22 March.)

Is it not your opinion, that the proportion of labour bestowed on arable land is infinitely greater than that bestowed on pasture land?—Certainly; ten times as much.

Has this been an abundant season?—In some situations very abundant; in others very much the reverse, for wheat.

Have there been large importations from Ireland?—Very large.

Do you not think those causes may occasion a low price of corn, although there should be a prohibition to foreign importation?—No, I think not; for this reason that the supply at Mark-lane has never been over abundant.

Veneris, 23^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. John Ellman, junior;

Again called in; and further Examined.

The Witness made the following Statement:

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J. Ellman, jun.
(23 March.)

YESTERDAY I went over the different calculations of the expense of cultivating arable land, but I now come to the different points of general information, which I should be happy to submit to the Committee, if they will hear me. The first point I wish to prove is, that the present agricultural distress has been owing to foreign importation, and not either to increase of production or diminution of consumption; the grounds on which I state this, and upon which I wish to negative the increased production as the cause, is, that for the last two years, the farmers having been in great distress, have curtailed their expenses in every possible way; that the crop of 1819, was by no means an abundant crop; of course very little wheat of 1819 was left at the harvest of last year; that the crop of 1820, although abundant in some parts of the kingdom, was very different in others. These facts, I should suppose, would negative the idea of excessive production being the cause of the present distress.

Do you observe, that a very stormy summer injures the crop by laying the wheat?—Very much.

Was that the case in 1819?—It was. With regard to the diminution of consumption not being the cause, I believe it has always been found, that among labourers, the first diminution of consumption takes place in tea, meat, sugar, and things of that nature, much rather than in bread; speaking of the labourers of this country, particularly in that part of the kingdom with which I am acquainted, the diminution of the consumption of bread has been, in fact, nothing, but rather more bread is consumed than otherwise, in consequence of the low price: then, in order to prove it is owing to the import, I have reason to know, that ever since the 15th of August 1818, when the ports ought to have closed, a considerable quantity of foreign wheat has been in the London market, and is now at this day; that whenever there has been the least apparent briskness in the market from a short supply of English wheat, those factors have endeavoured to sell this foreign wheat, and have immediately prevented the price rising in consequence, and that many farmers, owing to their distresses, have been obliged to sell at almost any price that was offered them; they could not possibly keep it; in order to make their payments good. Another thing, which I consider one great cause of the markets having been so dull, is, that all the middle men who used to be buyers of English corn, have had their capital locked up in foreign corn; consequently, there have been no buyers on the market, except those buying from hand to mouth, for the last two years and a half; the natural result of this must be, that whenever the supply has been any thing more than the demand, the price has gone down, for want of the middle man to take off any temporary surplus.

Have you any other proof than your own opinion, that the crop of 1819 was not abundant?—Yes; I have had letters from many parts of the kingdom, generally stating the same thing.

Have you any other proof but your own opinion, that the demand for bread is now the same as formerly, on the part of the labouring classes?—Yes; from different communications I have had, that in England the consumption of bread is very little diminished, indeed not diminished at all in the south of England.

Do

Do you happen to know whether the foreign wheat now in the market has been on sale for any considerable time, or that it was held by a particular speculator, who could not obtain the price he expected to get for it?—I happen to know that ever since the period to which I allude, of August 1818, foreign wheat, more or less, has been upon the market whenever there has been the least briskness in the trade.

Do the speculations of the middle man, in your opinion, tend to raise or lower the average price of corn?—They tend to keep it steady, by taking off any extra temporary supply to meet the future demand.

Do you not expect then, that in consequence of the speculations of those middle men being now withdrawn, that the price of wheat will be higher towards the end of this year?—That will depend very much, of course, upon the crop of the kingdom; it is impossible for me to ascertain correctly what the crop is.

As, in consequence of the diminished purchases of the middle men at this period of the year, an unusual quantity of corn has come to market, and the price has been lowered, ought we not, on your own principle, to expect that the price of corn would be higher at the end of this year?—I do not consider that an unusual quantity of corn has come to market.

To what then do you attribute the low price?—To the knowledge that the millers possess that many farmers must sell; that they are obliged to sell, let the price be what it will.

The Committee understood you to say, that the farmers have been obliged to sell an unusual proportion of their corn?—I believe I have not stated that.

Do you not think that a part of the low price of corn is to be attributed to the increased importations from Ireland?—Certainly.

Do you think that the importations from Ireland alone could cause a state of depression in the corn market, without inferring any unusual supply from the Continent?—No, I should think not.

Do you not think that the increasing growth of wheat and of other species of corn in Ireland, will have a very material effect upon the general supply of the empire?—Certainly; no doubt of it, if the growth in Ireland is encouraged.

Are you not aware that corn, generally, can be grown at a much cheaper rate in Ireland than in this country?—I was of that opinion till within this last week, when I saw the account of a gentleman from Ireland, Mr. Radcliffe, and I was perfectly surprized at the trifling difference between the expense of production here and the expense of production there.

You are aware that the soil in Ireland, generally speaking, is much more luxuriant than in England?—Yes.

Then, of course, the cultivation, generally speaking, must be more easy?—Yes.

Why then do you suppose that the expense of cultivation there is equal to what it is in England?—It is not equal, but there is not a great difference; I had supposed there was, till I saw Mr. Radcliffe's account, when it appeared that wheat could not be grown at less than 68 s. per quarter.

What was the rent of that land per English acre?—I think 2 l. for an Irish acre; the difference is five to eight, or 25 s. per English acre.

What was the tithe upon that land?—It is very trifling.

Did that person state to you the average produce of wheat and other corn?—Yes, he did.

What was it?—I cannot recollect, but I believe the paper is in the adjoining room.

If the supply from Ireland should be greatly increased, is it not possible that corn may be under eighty shillings here, although the importation of corn from other countries should be entirely prohibited?—Certainly.

Might it be under 70 s.?—I should think not under 70 s.

Would that not depend upon the expenses of growing corn in Ireland?—Certainly.

Might not those expenses be greatly reduced?—I cannot answer that question exactly, only in the way I have stated before, that the amount of expense in Ireland now, is not very much less than our own.

Might not the price of labour fall?—The price of labour was calculated very low; the men charged one shilling per day. I will now go on with the next head. I hope to be able to prove, that, under the present system of corn laws, the consumers of bread must always be subject to the great variation of prices which has existed since the passing of the bill in 1815; and that such variation is injurious to every class of society, and alike deprecated by every one, except persons of large capital, who speculate in foreign corn. My reasons for this opinion are these: I consider,

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that, under the present corn laws, a great part of the arable land now in cultivation, must go out of cultivation; and the natural consequence of such diminished and deteriorated cultivation must, in the event of a short crop or bad harvest here, raise the price of bread as high or higher than in 1817; which high price, I believe, in a great measure, to have been caused by the reduced and deteriorated cultivation of 1815 and 1816, succeeded by the wet harvest of 1816; that the average for the six years since the passing of the bill of 1815, has been nominally (I am not exactly correct as to the gazette average, because there are different ways of taking it,) 3*l.* 15*s.* per quarter; but that agriculture would have been much better off at a price 5*s.* a quarter less, if that price had been a steady one; and that very high prices are quite as injurious to agriculture as very low prices; and that such constant variations, not only create uneasiness in the consumers, but must have the effect of putting an end to leases, without which, good farming can never be general.

Do you remember what the price of corn was in 1817?—Yes, I do.

State it.—The price of wheat at one time, I can state, I sold at 7*l.* per quarter; the first week in June 1817.

Do you think, under the warehousing system, it would be possible for corn to rise to that price?—Yes, certainly.

Might we not import whatever quantity we pleased, and keep it under the king's lock?—Not in sufficient quantities, I consider, to make up for a bad crop here, with the deteriorated cultivation I speak of.

When you say that high prices are as injurious to agriculturalists as low prices, do you mean by agriculturalists, the farmers, or farmers and landlords?—The farmers.

How would high prices, or low prices, affect landlords?—It will at once prevent their granting any leases to their tenants.

Are they more likely to have high rents with high prices or low prices?—When prices rise very high, farmers are too apt to suppose they will continue so, they are mad for the moment.

But a steady high price for corn would, of course, be favourable to landlords?—Certainly.

Would a steady high price of corn, or a steady low price of corn, be most favourable to the tenant?—High, I consider a comparative term; I do not know what is meant by high.

The Committee mean high money prices?—I do not understand exactly what would be called high money prices.

Would a steady price of 5*l.* per quarter be more or less favourable to the farmers, than a steady price of 3*l.* per quarter?—I should consider cultivation could not go on at 3*l.* per quarter at all.

Under no circumstances?—No; certainly not.

Then instead of 3*l.* per quarter, the Committee ask you the question, with relation to 4*l.* per quarter?—I should think a steady price of 4*l.* per quarter would be better to the tenant, than a price of 5*l.* per quarter.

Be pleased to state your reasons for that opinion?—The reason is, that 5*l.* per quarter is more than I should suppose some classes of the community could afford to pay, that the consumption would be diminished; whereas, at 4*l.* per quarter, I should consider the supply and demand would very nearly equal each other.

Supposing that the poor rates remain stationary, do you not think that a steady moderate price of corn would be better for both landlord and tenant, than a fluctuation from high to low?—Certainly; no doubt of it. The third head is this; I hope to prove, that so far from the agricultural labouring classes being better off than in 1813, they are in a worse situation.

Are they in a worse situation than they were in 1816 and 1817?—In 1816, they were very badly off.

Are they worse off than they were in 1816?—I should think there is not much difference between now and 1816; in 1817, they were much improved by the increased amount of the employment afforded to them, owing to the price of corn.

Have the poor rates increased or not in your neighbourhood?—They have very much increased.

Have they progressively increased?—I think they will be found to have increased within the last year; we make up the account to the 25th of March; they of course were not made up when I left home.

Do you mean the rates would be increased last year, in relation to the preceding year?—Yes.

By the inability of the farmers to employ the men?—Exactly; I would state that even

(23 March.)

even supposing they may at present be as well off as in 1813, nothing but an alteration in the corn laws can prevent their sinking every day; my reasons for that opinion are these, that in 1813, the peasantry of the country had full employment, at good wages; but now it is known, that there are many able young men out of employment, in all parts of the country; labourers wages, except where they have large families, and must therefore receive a certain amount, either in wages or poor rates, have been considerably reduced; for instance, in our county, Sussex, the wages of a man and his wife and one child, in 1813, were 13s. a week; his wages now are 9s. a week; calculating that he had to buy three gallons of flour at 1s. 9d. a gallon, which was the price of flour, calculating wheat at 80s. a quarter, it would come to 5s. 3d.; his flour now at the present price, 1s. 3d. a gallon, would come to 3s. 9d.; so that he would have less wages per week than formerly, 4s.; the difference in the consumption of flour would be only 1s. 6d. leaving him 2s. 6d. less, to purchase other necessities. A man and his wife, with two children, would formerly have 14s. a week; now they have ten shillings; four gallons of flour at 1s. 9d. would be seven shillings; four gallons now at 1s. 3d. would be 5s.; so that his wages are reduced four shillings per week, and his flour only reduced two shillings per week; but I beg to submit, that although these may be the prices now, still it is impossible those prices for wages can continue to be paid, because I am confident they have been paid out of the farmer's capital, instead of his profits; and, therefore, it must be exhausted; it cannot last much longer.

If the corn laws remain as they are, you have said nothing can prevent the condition of the labourers from sinking every day; do you mean the agricultural labourers, or the whole class of labourers in the country?—I consider the agricultural labourers in the first instance, and then the others; it is impossible but the one must follow the other.

If the demand for agricultural labour should diminish, so that one or two hundred thousand men were thrown out of employment, and the demand for manufacturing labour should increase, so that one or two hundred thousand men were required, would you consider that a great evil?—No, certainly not, if that employment were perpetual.

What reason have you for supposing that the diminution of the demand for agricultural labour will be followed by a diminution of demand for manufacturing labour?—Because, I consider the home trade of this kingdom infinitely greater than any foreign trade we have or are likely to have; and the reason of the agricultural labourer sinking, is, the sinking of the price of the produce of the land, and the sinking of the price of the produce of the land must at once go to the diminishing of the demand for manufacturing labour.

Would there be any diminution of the demand for agricultural labour, without a great importation of corn from foreign countries?—No, I think not.

In what manner would that foreign corn be paid for?—It is a subject much beyond my sphere of life; but I believe it has been generally found, that when we have imported immense quantities of foreign corn, the price of bullion has risen, and that has been in consequence of it being paid for in specie; I do not know whether I am correct or not.

In what way do you think that bullion or specie is obtained?—That is going further than I can attempt to unravel.

In the event of two or three hundred thousand agricultural labourers being thrown out of employment, and there being a demand for the same number of hands in manufactories, do you think those labourers, from the hardness of their hands and other circumstances, could earn their living by working at manufactories?—I should think not.

If that is the case, must not all those thrown out of employment be a burthen upon the land for a certain number of years?—Certainly.

Do you find, that generally speaking, those labourers that have, during the greater part of their lives, been used to the habits of manufactories, are afterwards useful labourers in agriculture?—It is much the reverse.

Has the population increased in your part of the country of late years?—Very much.

Can you give any reasons for such increase?—In consequence of the labourers having been well off; another cause is, the poor rates; that they have been induced to marry very early, and have had great families.

You think the poor rates in your parish tend to the encouragement of early marriages?—No doubt of it.

Young labourers marry earlier than they otherwise would, in consequence of having that resource to go to?—Certainly.

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J. Ellman, jun.

(23 March.)

At what particular time is it, that young labourers apply to the parish for relief?—As soon as they are married they apply to us; they come for a house in the first instance.

Is it the practice in your country to hire servants in-doors?—In many places.

As much as formerly?—I should think not so much as formerly.

They do not hire them in the house so much as they formerly did?—No.

Do you not attribute the early marriages to that?—Not at all; it is still carried on in many farm houses in our neighbourhood, and I do not see but that those young men marry quite as soon as those out of the house.

Have you observed, that there is a general avidity among the parents of poor children, to establish them as early as possible in manufactories, such as silk or weaving manufactories, with a view of their obtaining high wages as soon as they are capable of making themselves useful?—We have no manufactory in our county, therefore I cannot answer that.

Is there a desire among parents, that the children should emigrate where manufactories exist?—Not at all.

Have you any idea whatever, what proportion the wages of a child employed in a manufactory such as has been alluded to, of twelve years old, who has attained a tolerable expertness in that manufactory, would bear to the wages of agricultural labour?—No, I have not; from having no manufactory in the county. The next thing that I hope to be able to prove is—it may appear rather paradoxical perhaps—that the very circumstance of the distress being so general, prevents that distress being seen in its fullest extent. My reasons for that opinion are these: that I believe the first symptom of distress has hitherto been considered to be, farms untenanted; I am asked by several friends, how is it there are not many farms untenanted? The reason is this, that to my knowledge, in the county of Sussex, a great many tenants have not paid any rent for one or two years; that the landlords have permitted them to continue occupying those farms, because they knew if they gave them up they could not find any other tenants to occupy them; and the landlords in those cases must pay the immense poor rates, which amount to 10 s. or 15 s. an acre.

Do you not think, that another reason is, that they do not find it likely to benefit their situation by entering into any other trade, all being alike distressed?—In those cases I have mentioned, I consider the capital of the tenant so completely gone, that when the landlord comes to take what is due to him there will be none left; in my own county, in many parishes, I believe that to be the case; that is all I have to say, as far as regards this particular point.

Are there more than one instance of the nature you have described, that you could substantiate, if required, by naming the party?—Yes, many; perhaps I could prove that more clearly by mentioning another circumstance, which is this; that provided confidence was restored to agriculturists, by having that protection which they think they ought to have, immediately, fresh tenants would be found, and then the extent of that distress would be seen, by the landlords making those tenants quit who had not capital enough to go on, and fresh tenants would occupy them; then it would be shown in that way, whereas now it is not seen. The next thing I shall hope to prove is, that according to the principle upon which the corn laws were established, the ports ought to have shut upon the 15th of August 1818, and that nearly 300,000 quarters of foreign wheat came into London after that period; calculating, that as half of what was imported into the kingdom, 600,000 quarters came in after the 15th of August 1818, when not a bushel of foreign wheat was wanted, as our own crop was very good; and which 600,000 quarters of foreign wheat have not only superseded the use of the same quantity of British or Irish corn, but reduced the value of the whole grown to a very great extent. My reasons for this opinion are these; I believe it is now acknowledged, that the averages at that time returned were much higher than the real averages, and that for the week ending the 15th of August, the average, even as so taken, in the Gazette was 79 s. per quarter; I calculate that the 300,000 quarters coming into London, as taken from the returns, would amount from that time to this, which is 140 weeks, to 2,000 quarters weekly; calculating the weekly supply of London at 16,000 quarters of wheat, that will amount to one-eighth of the whole; and I have no doubt it has reduced the price of wheat in this kingdom 2 s. per bushel for each of the two last years; calculating one shilling per bushel to make a difference of five millions, the difference in price to the agriculturists, occasioned by those 600,000 quarters, will be twenty millions sterling, upon wheat alone.

Do you mean to state, that wheat would be now two shillings a bushel dearer than it is at this present moment?—Yes, I do.

In what situation is the general state of agriculture in that part of the kingdom you are best acquainted with; is it deteriorated to what it was two years ago?—Yes; very much.

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Upon the present system of averages, as applied to this district, are you not of opinion, that the wheats of Essex, Kent and Sussex, at whatever rate of expense they may have been raised, have no weight whatever in the scale, if placed there with an overwhelming quantity of corn, of which no notice has been taken as to the expense at which it may have been raised, as compared with those three counties?—Certainly.

By the exclusion of all the markets of the counties of Essex, Kent and Sussex, from the average of the first district, do you apprehend that the produce of wheat in those three counties, whatever may be its quality, is without influence in striking the general average of the maritime districts?—It has its influence in Mark-lane where the district is taken; in Mark-lane those three counties have their influence, in so far as the best wheats only of those three counties are there sold.

You have stated, that the importation of 600,000 quarters of wheat have in your opinion had the effect of diminishing the aggregate value of all the wheats sold in the country to the amount of 20 millions?—Yes.

Do you think if we had a plentiful crop to give us an addition of 600,000 quarters of wheat, that that quantity would produce the same effect?—It would not certainly have the same effect.

Why not?—Because in that case the 600,000 quarters would come from persons growing it under the same expenses as ourselves.

But if 600,000 quarters of wheat are brought to market, is it of any importance from whence they are derived; must they not equally affect the price?—I should think not, certainly.

Then you are of opinion, that the market price of wheat is not regulated by the proportion which the supply bears to the demand?—In a general way it would; but that has not been the case in the last six months.

You think there are exceptions to that general rule?—Yes I do; I hope to prove that it is of very little consequence whether the import price be 70s. 80s. or 90s. if upon wheat reaching the particular price, an unlimited quantity of foreign wheat is permitted to be imported duty free; my reason for that opinion is this, that if we had a deficient crop in this country, and it was known, which it would be immediately after harvest, that we should not have enough for the supply of the whole year, the price would rise so as to open the ports, and if an unlimited quantity is poured in, it might come at the end of the year just as we were going to reap a new crop, and compete with this new crop which was abundant, and which we could afford to sell at a something lower price, instead of competing with a crop which has been deficient; I hope to prove, that if a duty were imposed adequate to the necessity, such duty would not be so much an increase of the price here as a decrease of the price abroad; my reason for that opinion is, that on looking at the evidence given by Mr. Scott and other witnesses in the corn trade, before the Committees of both Houses in 1814, I find that the expenses of growing wheat in Poland are so trifling that they bear no comparison to our expenses here, and that it is grown for exportation expressly, and that they can afford to sell it, and that they would sell it at 30s. a quarter sooner than keep it, directly there is a demand here; that the only difference would be, that the price at Dantzic, instead of rising to near 80s. would rise as near as possible to that price which they could afford to sell it at paying this duty; and as a proof of this, I beg leave to mention to the Committee, the case of the Spanish wool; the Spanish government, I believe, imposed a duty on the exportation of wool, from which they raised a considerable revenue; our government imposed a duty on importation, the consequence of which was, that the Spaniards withdrew their duty on exportation, and our government obtained the revenue instead of the Spanish government.

When did that happen?—I believe two years ago.

The circumstance you mention of the tax on Spanish wool being taken off by one government, and laid on by another, did not affect the real value received by the grower of wool in Spain?—Certainly not; only that our duty was something more; I think that our duty was five pence, and theirs was four pence.

How then does that case bear any analogy to the one you have stated, respecting the growth of corn in Poland?—I should suppose they were strictly analagous.

The grower of corn in Poland, receiving a greater price when the price is high, according to your statement, and a lower price when the price is low; when in the

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case of the grower of the wool, the grower always received the same price?—I suppose the wool in Spain, not being manufactured in the country, must be sent to other countries to be manufactured, in the same way as wheat must be sent to other countries from Poland, for a market.

If the facility of growing corn in Poland, is such as you have described, by what means can you estimate the amount of duty, so as to obtain a sufficient protection against the importation of corn from that quarter?—I find that now, when there is no demand, the price of wheat at Dantzic is not 30s. per quarter the common wheat, and that they would be glad to sell at that price at this moment.

Then at that rate, a 40s. duty would have no effect at all?—It has this effect; I find from the evidence given by Mr. Scott, that directly there is a demand here, the price rises at Dantzic; and I think that that demand will make 40s. an efficient duty.

What would be the price at Dantzic, to make 40s. a sufficient duty here?—The Committee may not be aware that the nominal quarter at Dantzic is so much more than our own, that it pays the peace freights over at this time; and seeing that the price of wheat at Dantzic is 28s. at present, it would rise if there were a demand for it to 35s.; the duty would make it 75s. and there would be 5s. profit for the importing merchant, at which profit he would undertake, if he was at liberty to sell, at any time.

Before you come to the conclusion you have stated, to enable you to speak with safety, ought you not to be sufficiently aware of the quantity that the Continent can produce?—I have paid very great attention to the evidence given by Mr. Scott and these factors before the Committees of both Houses, in the year 1814.

Do you know the price of wheat in the interior of Poland?—No, I do not.

Do you know the expense of bringing wheat from the interior to Dantzic?—I am not acquainted with that expense.

Do you know what the whole expenses of bringing a quarter of wheat are, from the interior of Poland to London?—Of course not; I know the expense of bringing a quarter of wheat here; in fact, it is no expense at all, for I am told the over measure pays the present freight.

Do you mean to say that wheat can be brought from Dantzic without any expense whatever?—I understand it would be brought in this way, that the person freighting it, provided there was a sale for the wheat, would very gladly take the over-measure for the freight.

What is the over-measure?—It is considerable.

Do you know the per centage?—I do not; I have seen the calculations, but I cannot speak with certainty.

Do you think that if there was a very great demand for foreign wheat in this country, that the price in foreign countries would be wholly regulated by that demand, and not by the cost of producing?—It would be entirely regulated by that demand.

Therefore, whether it costs to the foreign grower 5s. a quarter or 50s. a quarter to produce it, he would still sell at the same price in London?—As stated before, the cost of production abroad is so trifling, the price is entirely regulated by the demand here. One other statement I would beg leave to make: Before I came from home, I requested a very considerable burner of lime in Lewes, who has been in the habit of supplying the Weald of Sussex with lime, to give me an account of the difference between the money owing to him by the farmers now, and in the spring of 1818; his answer is this, which he is ready to prove if required; "We have received only one-third of the amount due in 1820 by the fifth of March 1821, and one-fourth of the above third was taken in produce; in 1818, by the fifth of March, we had received three-fourths of the amount due from the farmers; we have lost as much money in failures, in this year, though only two months are expired, as we have done during the whole of the three years before, from the farmers; for three years we have employed sixty men, and, from present appearances, twenty will be amply sufficient this year." I should think their returns are not less than twelve or fifteen thousand a year; they are in an immense way of business; they told me, and I know them to be men of veracity, that if they had not burnt any lime for these last two years they should have been money in pocket; that they have lost more by failures among the farmers than they have gained by profit; that it would have been better not to have done business at all, provided they could have kept their custom.

Mr. Evan David; Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you reside?—At Fairwater, near Cardiff, in Glamorganshire.

You have come with information to give to the Committee as to the distressed state of agriculture in your part of the country?—I am prepared to prove the distress upon my own farm.

Have you any statement to that effect?—Yes, I have.

Mr.
Evan David.

(23 March.)

[The Witness produced and read the following Paper :]

Annual produce of 650 acres - - 460 acres arable and 190 acres grass :

110 acres of wheat, at three quarters per acre	-	Qrs.	330	0			
Deduct seed for 110 acres, at 3 bushel per acre			41	2		£.	s. d.
			288	6	at 46 s.	664	2 6
90 Acres barley, at 4 quarters 4 bushels per acre	-		405	0			
Deduct seed for 90 acres at 3½ bushel							
per acre	-		39	3			
			365	5	at 22 s.	402	3 9

12 Acres oats consumed on farm.

212 Total of corn.

120 Fat sheep 80 lb. at 7 d.	-		£.	s.	d.		
30 Lambs, at 15 s.	-		22	10	0		
Wool off 300 sheep, 1,500 lb. at 1 s. 2 d.	-		87	10	0		
D° of 130 lambs, 325 lb at 1 s. 2 d.	-		18	19	0		
						498	19 0
6 Oxen, weight 880 lb. at 6 d.	-		130	0	0		
4 Cows and heifers at 16 l. 10 s.	-		66	0	0		
						198	0 0
Milk of 12 cows, at 9 l. per cow	-					108	0 0
D° from 120 ewes for four months, at 12 s. per ewe	-					72	0 0
Pigs of stubbles and clover only	-					20	0 0
			£.	1,873	5	3	

Annual Expense on 650 acres labour, for the year ending August

1820, exclusive of superintendence	-					623	11	6½
Carpenter and wheelwright, including timber for upholding stock of implements	-					50	10	0
Blacksmith as above	-					45	0	0
Saddler d°	-					18	5	0
Rope-maker, farrier and druggist	-					10	0	0
Hurdles, netting, sacks, &c.	-					12	0	0
Repair of threshing and trimming machines	-					8	10	0
Tithe on 576 acres (74 acres being tithe free)	-					153	14	0
Grass seeds for 100 acres, at 15 s. per acre	-					75	0	0
Turnip seed for 60 acres, at 3 s.	-					9	0	0
120 Tons of lime coal, at 5 s. 6 d.	-					35	0	0
Sundries, such as bad debts, expenses in marketing, corn and stock	-					50	0	0
Poor rate for the year ending Candlemas, 1820	-					133	6	0
Road rate to Michaelmas, 1820, 1 year	-					17	9	8
Land tax and husbandry horse tax	-					37	5	5
Rent of 650 acres at 30 s.	-		975	0	0			
Interest on capital 5,000 l. at 10 per cent.	-		500	0	0			
			1,475	0	0	1,278	1	7½
Total annual expense	-		1,278	1	7½			
			2,753	1	7½			
Produce	-		1,873	5	3			
Deficiency	-		£.879	16	4½			

Mr.
Evan David.

Expense of labour :

		£.	s.	d.	
From August 1819 to November	-	250	19	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
November 1819 to February 1820	-	111	2	8	
February to May	-	117	0	6	
May to August	-	144	9	4	
					- £.623 11 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
a. August to November	-	233	10	9	- 606 3 3
b. November 1820 to February 1821	-	106	10	5	- 596 19 0

I have taken the amount of labour and the first period, because I do not conceive, that my produce will be equal to what I have stated, from my present reduced amount. I would wish the Committee to understand, that I have not sold the whole of my crop, but have charged it at the present prices, and what they have been for the last three or four months.

What are the poor rates upon your land per acre?—The poor rate for the year ending Caudlemas 1821, was £. 133 6s. rather more than 4s. per acre.

Have you a similar statement of the farm for any number of years previous?—Having made an increase in my farm in the last two years, I cannot produce a statement of that kind, 650 acres, but I can produce the average of the crops which I formerly produced, and also the quantity of labour.

How long have you been a farmer?—I have been a farmer nine years on my own account; I was brought up to a farm.

Did your father hold that farm before you?—Yes, he did.

What is the situation of labourers in your parish; are they in a state of distress?—I consider they are; labour is lowering; I pay my labourers, at present, 9s. 6d. on the average; I give my ploughmen about 11s. 6d.

How much less is that, than what you paid three or four years ago?—I have paid 14s. to my ploughmen.

Do you employ as many labourers as you did before the last year?—At this time I do not.

Have you used as much lime as you did formerly?—Not so much.

For what reason?—Because I conceive I shall not be repaid at the present price of produce.

In your part of the country, do you observe that capital is withdrawn from land, or that land is not kept in the same state of cultivation as it was some years back?—Certainly it is not kept in the same state; the farmers have not the means.

Have you heard any complaints on the part of tradesmen near you, that they cannot get their bills paid by the farmers?—I have; there is a petition sent from the tradesmen of the town of Cardiff to the House of Commons, stating the agricultural distress, and praying that some relief should be given to the agriculturalist.

Have you any means of giving the Committee information, as to the mode in which the averages have been taken in your part of the country lately?—I examined the inspector's books at Cowbridge, I believe the 20th of February last, myself, and I have a copy of his book by me, and I have likewise examined the price given by two of the principal millers in our county, to contrast with those prices entered by the inspector.

What is the difference between them?—The total amount of wheat entered by the inspector, from November the 14th 1820, to February the 13th 1821, was forty quarters and three bushels, the average price 57s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.; the total quantity of wheat purchased by one of those millers, during the same period, was 1,619 quarters, and the average price 44s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. calculated at 57 lbs. per Winchester bushel measure, wheat being purchased in our county, by a bushel to weigh 168 lbs.

What is the difference between the inspector's return and the miller's report to you of the prices he gave?—13s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The quantity purchased by the other miller was 600 quarters 7 bushels, from November the 14th to February the 13th; average price, 44s. 5d.

What are the farms, generally speaking, in the neighbourhood to which you allude; are they principally arable?—They are mixed; they are both arable and pasture; they are, generally speaking, about one-third pasture and two-thirds arable.

What is the average produce?—The average produce of my farm for four years, 1816, 17, 18, and 19, was thirty-six Winchester bushels and two gallons of barley, and twenty-five bushels and six gallons of wheat.

What

What rent do you pay upon that?—About 30 s. on an average; I occupy part of my own land.

Could you suggest any method by which a more correct average could be obtained?—I conceive I can.

State it.—I am of opinion that if some of the principal millers and maltsters were required to return all the corn they purchase, instead of requiring them to make a return of those purchases only, made in the towns where the returns are taken, the returns would be more correct.

Do they take toll in the markets?—Yes, they do.

Is it a reason why the millers do not return to the inspectors that they would be liable to toll?—No; I do not conceive that it is liable to toll; it is a mere private transaction.

You think the millers would endeavour to evade giving an account of the corn sold in market?—They would; the quantity of corn brought to market and pitched, is very small, and the principal millers seldom buy any of that quantity; on that account they purchase by sample.

Do they object to inform the corn-inspector of these transactions?—I do not know whether they have been ever required or not, or whether they are aware that the law requires it; I believe it would be difficult to compel them, and because they would evade the law altogether, by not completing the purchase in the town; but when the market was over, by letter, or without the town; millers in the country, seldom reside in the town.

What is the annual expense of cultivating land in Glamorganshire, per acre?—I have laid a statement of the expense of my farm before the Committee.

What proportion does the amount of labour, bestowed upon arable land, bear to that of pasture?—That question I cannot answer, because I have not kept a separate account.

What should you suppose was the proportion; do you not suppose the proportion of labour upon arable land is much greater than upon pasture?—Without a doubt.

Are those parts of Wales most distressed where arable land chiefly prevails?—They are.

Is there any striking difference between the situation of arable land formerly, and pasture land formerly?—I conceive the present price of corn is at little more than one-half of a remunerating price, but cattle have not depreciated so much in value as corn; I consider that cattle are at a depreciation of from a fourth to a fifth; my account would stand thus, and what I consider to be fair price:

	£.	s.	d.
286 quarters 6 bushels Wheat, at 80 s.	1,155	0	0
320 d° 5 d° Barley, at 40 s.	641	5	0
Stock advanced, one-fourth	1,008	13	9
	2,804	18	9
Expense	2,753	1	7½
Balance	51	17	1½

Has there been any reduction in tradesmen's bills; in wheelwright's bills, and blacksmith's bills?—Very little; to a very small amount.

What is the relative price of timber and iron at this moment, and what was it two years ago?—That question I cannot answer.

Are the poor rates in this part of which you speak, upon the rise or fall?—They are stationary at present.

Do you imagine they will continue stationary?—No; I fear they will advance.

On what do you found that opinion?—I conceive that farmers, at the present prices, will not be able to employ the whole of the poor, and consequently they must be sustained by the poor rates.

Was it ever the practice in any part of Wales, to apportion the number of labourers according to the extent of the farmer's occupation?—I am not aware of that plan to any extent; it has been done by mutual consent, where there are idle hands, that they shall be divided.

Are you aware that that practice has been given up where it ever was attempted?—I believe it has.

Does not your country very much depend upon the state of the iron trade?—Yes; there are great iron works at Merthyr.

Mr.
Evan David.

(23 March.)

Supposing the iron trade to decline, should you not be burthened with a greater extent of poor?—We should, certainly; but I do not conceive that the prices of our produce could be much lower; we are now obliged to send it to another market; flour and barley is exported from our neighbourhood to Bristol at present.

But still you would be obliged to maintain a greater extent of poor?—Yes, without a doubt; we must maintain the manufacturing poor.

Are any number of children employed in the iron manufactories?—Yes, I believe there are; Merthyr is twenty miles from where I reside.

Do you find any avidity among parents, to get their children out, early in life, into those manufactories, or any other, with a view to obtain high wages?—I believe, in manufactories they do, more so than in agricultural.

Does not that desire prevail among the poor people generally, of getting their children out into different manufactories, with a view to obtain money, at an early period of their life?—I conceive it does.

Those children would return back again into their own parishes, having perhaps been able to maintain themselves at those manufactories, utterly unqualified for agricultural labour?—Certainly; we have had instances of young men having gone up to the iron manufactories, and remain there twenty or thirty years or more, and returned back to the parish where they were born, to be maintained during their old age.

Is that to a great extent?—I know it does prevail in our county.

You are considerably burthened from that cause?—Our burthens are certainly increased from that cause.

Do you believe, that if the present prices of corn were to continue for two years longer, that any great proportion of South Wales would be cultivated to advantage?—I conceive a very large proportion of it would be uncultivated.

You do not give that opinion as applying to poor land, but you state it as applying to land of a mixed quality?—I conceive that land of a middling quality would be laid down to grass, but poor land would be out of cultivation.

And the increase of burthen upon the poor rates would be very considerable?—Yes, in consequence of less labour being employed.

By the circumstance of land returning to a state of pasture?—Yes.

Speaking as to South Wales, generally, what proportion of capital should you say was required of a man to take an arable farm, as contrasted with pasture?—At the price of all agricultural produce, two years ago, I should conceive that a man ought to have ten pounds an acre for such a farm as I now occupy; but I cannot state the precise amount required for a grass farm.

Are you not of opinion that it requires more capital upon an arable farm, than upon a pasture farm?—Yes, certainly.

Have you reduced the amount of your capital lately?—My capital has been greatly reduced by the reduced prices.

Have you reduced your expenses?—I have reduced two of my labourers during the last quarter.

For what reason?—They were people that were formerly employed in repairing fences, which I forego at present.

Were the farmers in Wales, speaking of South Wales generally, ever to your knowledge, in the same state of difficulty as they are at this moment?—Not in my memory.

Is that a decrease in capital, as well as in every other point of view?—Yes.

In those statements, you have made no estimate as to your own expenses of house-keeping?—No.

What rate of interest have you charged for your capital?—Ten per cent.

Martis, 27° die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Thomas Orton;

Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you reside?—At March in the Isle of Ely.
You are an owner and occupier of a large farm, near March?—Yes, I am.

Mr.
Thomas Orton

(27 March.)

You are also concerned in the management of the Bedford Level, and well acquainted with the Fens?—I am a conservator of the level, and have a good deal of interest in the general drainage.

What is the general situation of farms now in the Isle of Ely?—In the greatest possible state of distress.

Can you state to the Committee, what their present poverty is to be attributed to?—I think to the low price of corn, generally speaking.

Are oats grown much in your part of the country?—Oats are the principal part of the produce.

Are they paying now a remunerating price to the farmer?—They are losing by them now, to a very considerable extent.

How do you account for that low price?—From the importation which took place from the 15th of August last.

Can you tell the Committee the expense of the cultivation of an acre of oats, and what it ought to produce in money to remunerate the farmer?—The general expense, as well as I can estimate, throughout the country, would be about 6 *l.* 11 *s.* without stating any support for the family.

And without rent?—No; I have included rent, at what I should term the average of the country.

Can you tell the average price of oats at this time?—Probably at this time, in that part of the country, they would not be more than 14 *s.* a quarter.

What is the average rent of the land, called the Bedford Level?—Thirty shillings probably; a great portion of that is paid in drainage taxes.

Which are at the expense of the landlord?—Yes.

What will be the net rent?—The net rent in that case would not be more than 1 *l.*; I think the expenses of drainage would be nearly 10 *s.* upon the average, but in many cases more.

Having told the Committee what the average expense of growing an acre of oats amounts to, and also that the average price of oats is 14 *s.* per quarter; can you state how many quarters of oats per acre are grown upon the average, this year, from your own returns?—I cannot tell upon my own returns, but upon the general routine of the Fens, about six quarters an acre; I have not taken my own exactly; I can tell what it was for a number of years back throughout the country, but I cannot give a direct average, they vary so much in the Fens, more so than in any other part of the country. I think it probable if you were to have different people, they would give different statements; different individuals cultivate their lands in a different way, in proportion to their strength; a weak farmer does not go to the same expense in cultivating his lands, that a farmer in greater opulence does.

Can you state to the Committee, whether your poor rates are in general high, in your part of the country?—The poor rates are not considered so high in proportion to the estimation of the lands in general; the lands, in the course of the last ten or fifteen years, have materially improved in their value, in consequence of the superior drainage given them; the poor rates probably have in the last twenty-five years increased in a three-fold degree; our parishes are very large.

Have they diminished in the last year or two?—Not in the slightest degree.

Have you observed at all, that the rates increase nearly in the same proportion as the price of corn diminishes?—I think that is not the case; I think they are much the

Mr.
Thomas Orton.

(27 March.)

same they have been for many years, with the slightest variation possible. I happened to have laid before me, a few days since, a statement of the parochial relief allowed to poor families, and I think I saw as many as 120; at this moment from 80 to 100 able-bodied men are living upon the parish, obtaining relief either by labour or by parochial relief. Now the price of provisions is so exceedingly low, that our allowance to the poor is not to the same extent it originally was, but more persons are become chargeable than ever were at any former period; that will originate in a more or less degree, from the inability of the farmer of employing the hands.

Are there any manufactories in your part of the country?—No, not any.

Are tradesmen in your part of the country suffering much?—Yes, materially for the want of employment, and for the want of the payment of those debts which have been already incurred.

The farmers cannot pay their tradesmen?—No; some little time since the trades assembled together, generally for the purpose of coming to a determination not to give credit to the farmers in any way; that their own means became so much exhausted for want of payment, and that the agriculturalists were labouring under such heavy afflictions as to render them incapable of making good their payments already incurred, and that they dare not venture to give credit further to them.

Can you state to the Committee, whether the Warehousing and Bonding System have injured the farmers in your part of the country?—In every part of the country, I think, because it employs the capital that should be in circulation in our own markets; and that is locked up by the quantity of foreign corn in hand.

Do you happen to know by what means the ports were opened for foreign oats, in August last?—I believe the ports were opened in the month of August last, by undue means.

State what means?—I believe that the merchants holding bonded oats, took a very lively part in raising the market, for the purpose of opening the ports; I recollect myself being at Lynn, at the time that this circumstance took place in a more or less degree; and I think there was a merchant from Newcastle, apparently associating himself with other merchants who were holding bonded corn; and that contracts were made between those persons for the delivery of oats, I believe as high as 34 s. per quarter, when the average price upon that market probably did not much exceed 21 s. or 22 s. per quarter; some steps were taken by other merchants in the place, at that time, and some proceedings commenced against those merchants for those undue means, and I think a fine or two was levied.

Do you know this of your own knowledge?—Not direct.

State to the Committee how it came to your knowledge?—One circumstance was very favourable to me or part of my family; for one of the merchants who was taking a very lively part in this affair, stated to me every particular relative to it; and that the price was reduced, from the very best authority I may speak, 7 s. per quarter upon the return of that day.

If the Committee required you to bring proof of the fact you have now stated, could you do it?—I think I could.

Will you have the goodness to state the names of the persons from whom you got your information?—Messrs. Booker and Greens, a house of the greatest respectability at Lynn. I may vary in some trifling degree, but the information I am giving upon this occasion, is with a view to give the strictest and most correct account I can. I think it is possible a letter may be proved, a copy of one sent to me upon the subject, in much less time than sending for the persons.

Do you know of any undue practices by the farmers, to sink the price of corn below a fair level?—I have never heard that the farmers have taken any undue part in it; I do not believe they have any power to do it.

Will you state to the Committee, what proportion of the land in the Fens, you suppose is generally sown with oats?—The general system in the Fens, is one-third corn, and probably one-fifth, or rather more than one-fifth, would be oats. I have no doubt that the Fens are now growing two-fifths corn, and one-fifth of which is oats.

In your opinion, is the protecting price of oats high enough to give the grower that protection which is given to all other corn?—It is not sufficient to protect the oat-grower.

Are there any farms in your part of the country untenanted?—I am not able to say

say how far that may be the case, but distresses have been made upon as much as 2,000 acres of land.

Do you mean distress for rent?—Yes; and the occupiers of those are not likely ever to get into business again.

Generally speaking, besides those distresses, how are rents paid on the Bedford Level?—I believe the rents have not been paid very well; it very frequently happens that the occupiers are owners of some lands. Persons possessing large property in the Fens, have sold out, considering it objectionable property.

What is the general quality of the land in the Isle of Ely?—They vary very materially; there are some very fine lands, and some very inferior, but all are productive lands, if well drained.

Were the crops good last year?—The wheat crops were particularly unfavourable, mildewed, and unproductive.

Have you much grazing land in your part of the country?—There is a considerable deal of grazing land; I cannot tell what the proportion may be.

Can you tell the Committee how the graziers have been off, whether they have suffered or not?—The graziers have suffered as much as the farmers; the price of animal food is very low, and the graziers are losing considerably.

Are the farmers in that part of the country chiefly breeders of cattle, or graziers?—They breed some sheep, it is not a good breeding country, the ditches are injurious to them.

In your opinion, can the farmers on the Bedford Level, continue to farm at the present prices of corn, if one-third of their rents, tithes and taxes were taken off;—I think not.

How long has it been so?—It has been so for the last five or six years; there have been times when the farmers derived some degree of benefit, but not generally speaking.

At the time the ports were open for the importation of oats, what is your opinion of the quantity in hand; do you think there was enough to answer the demand?—There was no fear of there being any want. I think we can always grow enough if the harvest is at all favourable.

At that time you think there was enough?—Quite a sufficiency.

Did the price decrease?—Yes, it did; I was one of the victims.

Can you state the amount of the decrease?—I think, probably, from four to five shillings per quarter.

How long did that continue?—It continues to this moment; the importation during that time was very considerable.

You have stated the average rents on the Isle of Ely to be about 1 *l.* net?—I think nearly that.

Although this is the average, do the extremes differ very much?—Very materially indeed; there are some exceedingly fine lands in the country, and that is used as grazing land; others are very inferior.

Be so good as to state the difference in the net rent of those different qualities of land, the best and the worst?—I think, probably, from 10 *s.* the lowest, to 40 *s.* or from that to 50 *s.* may be given under partial circumstances.

Should you not naturally expect, that the poor rates would fall with the price of corn?—I think there is no probability of the poor rates lowering.

In ordinary times, should you not expect the poor rates would fall with the fall in the price of corn?—I think, unless the price of corn becomes such as would remunerate the grower, the labourers will be thrown upon the parish, and the rates will rather increase than diminish.

But if the usual quantity of labour was employed, you would expect that the rates would fall in the price of corn?—Yes.

What are the manufactures in your part of the country?—Not any.

You have stated, that you think the bonding system injurious to the farmers, inasmuch as the capital of the persons who used to speculate in corn, is locked up in bonded corn?—Yes; and it also produces a disposition in the merchants, when the price of corn is approaching to any thing like the maximum, to be very cautious how they became the purchasers, unless the ports should open and that corn should be deposited upon the market.

You do not, however, think, that it so operates on the merchant, when the price of corn is very considerably below 80 *s.*?—I think, probably it may not materially operate any further than it takes such a portion of money out of the market.

Mr.
Thomas Orton.

(27 March.)

Does the taking of money out of the market, produce any other effect, than to force an unusual quantity of corn to market, and thereby sinking the price?—I think I cannot answer that question further than I have done.

You have stated, that the capital employed in the purchase of bonded corn, is, in your opinion, injurious to the farmer; it what way is it injurious to the farmer?—It is injurious to the farmer, so far as it employs the capital of the most wealthy merchants, and deprives the English market of having so much more money employed upon it; further, that it has such an effect, as I have before observed, that such a quantity of corn lying ready to come into the market, at the moment the ports are open, deprives others of speculating to any extent in English corn.

Then, in all cases, it injures the farmer, by lowering the value of corn?—I think it does, even probably at all times.

If those circumstances have the effect of lowering the price of corn unusually at an early period, would you not expect that the price would be higher at some subsequent period?—On the price probably upon the last six weeks, when it is at all approaching to the maximum, there is a considerable improvement apparently in the returns; but it does not happen that the farmers take the full advantage of it. The merchants buying English corn, are unwilling to hold any material stock in hand, lest the ports should open, when the price must retrograde materially.

As a general principle, do you not think that the employment of the capital of the middle men, is rather favourable than otherwise to the consumer?—I am not inclined to think that much advantage can be derived there.

Could not the farmers have counteracted the attempt of the merchants to raise the price of oats, on the occasion which you have mentioned in your evidence, by selling an unusual quantity, for the purpose of keeping the price below the average?—It happened at that period, and it always will happen at that period, in the month of August, that the farmers are very small holders of corn, and that the middle men are then in possession of the general part of the stocks of the country.

At the present rent and charges, what, in your opinion, would be the remunerating price for oats?—I think the fair maximum, for the protection of the farmer, would be very likely from 30 s. to 32 s. per quarter, as the variation is so very considerable; and that never until the last six weeks of the quarter, is any material advantage taken to raise the price, unless there should happen to be a deficiency, which I have not experienced.

You think that no oats ought to be admitted into this country from other countries, when oats are under 32 s.?—From 30 s. to 32 s.

What measure would you recommend in order to procure this result?—In that particular I should suggest, and leave it to the government of the country to determine, whether it should be 30 s. or 32 s.; and that the average should be taken for the quarter, and not for the six weeks, which it now is taken for.

Would you recommend that no oats should be admitted into this country, until the price was at 30 s. or 32 s. per quarter?—Certainly.

Would you recommend a duty to be laid on the importation of oats, after they reached the price of 30 s. or 32 s.?—I think it would be beneficial to the revenue.

Would you recommend it?—I should certainly feel disposed to recommend it.

In recommending this measure, are you thinking of the advantages to the farmers and growers of corn, or the general interest of the community?—I am in this case recommending it for the general interest of the community; I trust I should not be selfish under any circumstances.

What do you think would be the effect of opening the ports freely at all times for the importation of corn?—It would be fatal to the agricultural and landed interests of the country; it would be ruinous.

What do you think would then be the price of oats in this country?—I should think probably 10 s. a quarter.

You have nothing to judge by?—Only by seeing foreign letters, by which I see they may be bought or sold at foreign markets, as low as eight or ten shillings per quarter, and the difference of measure will pay the freight.

But if oats were at 10 s. a quarter in this country, could any oats whatever be grown here?—The farmer could not even pay the common labour upon them, without even rents or taxes.

Then he would leave off growing them?—Of course he would.

Do you think then that all the oats consumed in this country, and all the wheat consumed in this country, could be obtained from foreign countries?—That is a question

a question I should be perfectly incapable of answering, but it appears so from what we have seen.

Mr.
Thomas Orton.

You spoke of distress having been made on 2,000 acres of land, are those the property of one individual?—No, different persons.

(27 March.)

Do you happen to know when the leases were taken, under which those lands were held?—No, I do not; probably some of them are not under lease.

Supposing the same fall to take place now in the price of corn, as might have taken place twenty years ago, and the same relative quantity of labour to be employed, do you think the poor rates would fall now as much as they would have done twenty years ago?—I think the poor rates will not readily fall in the same way as they would twenty years ago, the system and spirit of the poor is so different to what it was at that period.

Have the poor rates been regularly progressive in your neighbourhood?—No, I think not. I think the poor rates rose at the time that provisions were excessively high, and they have not materially varied since.

Have distresses for poor rates been frequent?—Distresses have not been frequent, but there have been summonses to a considerable extent.

Have the poor rates been paid, on the persons appearing to answer the summonses?—Yes, with indulgences.

Has any general scale of relief been adopted by the magistrates, according to the number of children and the price of corn?—In a certain degree it has; but it has not been regularly adopted.

You have stated, that the average rent to be about 1*l.* an acre, what do you conceive to be the increase of rent in 30 years on the average?—The increase of rent, until the last six years was very considerable; but within the last five or six years, rents may probably have declined.

Supposing it was now 20*s.* on the average; what was it in 1791?—I think the rents are probably now one-third more, than they were in the year 1791 or 1792.

How much do you think they have fallen in the last six years?—I am not able to say, the property is so much in the hands of small proprietors.

Has there been much expense laid out in drainage, in the last thirty years?—We have in one undertaking, laid out four hundred thousand pounds.

Is there any fall in the wages of labour lately?—They are lower considerably.

What were they seven or eight years ago?—In winter the wages would have been twelve or fifteen shillings a week, now from nine to ten shillings.

Do you think the labourers are as well off with nine shillings a week now, as they were with twelve shillings a week, seven years ago?—Much better than they were in the year 1813.

Has the price of the other commodities they consume, besides corn, fallen in the same proportion as their wages?—I think the internal trade, such as the butchers, have not lowered their price so much in the country, as the article has fallen to the grazier.

Such as clothes, coats, hats and shoes?—I think not; certainly not.

How is a labourer better off with nine shillings a week now, than with twelve shillings a week, eight years ago?—Bread is not half the price it was then, and that is half their consumption; and potatoes are low.

How much bread does a man consume per week?—One pound a day upon the average; taking a family, seven pound per head per week.

What proportion of his wages is applied to the purchase of flour?—I cannot answer that immediately; the price of wheat is not more than from one half to two thirds what it was seven years ago.

They consume upon the average, half a stone each?—Yes.

Supposing there is a man, his wife and four children, you give him three stone?—Yes.

Do you think the wages vary generally according to the price of wheat?—Not in the slightest degree, I think; except when the country is driven to that degree of necessity the country now is.

Has there been any diminution in the tradesmen's bills of the farmers, in the last five or six years?—In a very small degree.

Not in proportion to the diminution in the price of their produce?—No; certainly not; but they have much less to do.

There is very little work for blacksmiths in the Fens?—Very little.

Mr.
Thomas Orton.

(27 March.)

You said just now, that if foreign corn was allowed duty free, the effect would be to ruin the farmers?—Yes; and the landed interest.

What would be the effect on the poor rates?—I do not know what would be done with the poor; the poor rates would be in such a state, that none could be paid.

It would raise them very high?—Yes; there would be no employment given to the poor.

If the consumption of this country should be supplied more than at present, with foreign corn, would it not have that effect?—Yes; any importation, in my opinion, is injurious, if not nearly ruinous, to the country.

Supposing foreign corn to be more used than it is, would not the cost of the labour in producing that corn be in effect paid to the foreign labourers, and not to British labourers?—I cannot reply to that question in any shape.

Supposing the corn to be raised abroad and brought in here, would not the whole cost of that corn be paid by us, on the consumption?—Of course it would be paid by us; if this quantity of corn was brought from abroad, the labourers of this country would be unemployed and would be dependent upon the rates of this country.

Would not the labourers abroad be employed at the cost of our own?—Yes, they would be employed at our ruin.

You have said nothing about wheat?—We are not much of a wheat country.

You have stated, that the remunerating price of oats ought to be raised to 30 or 32 shillings?—Yes.

The Committee ask you, whether the same reasoning goes to wheat, and to what amount?—Probably not with one in the country I am residing in; but wheat would have less growth in the country, by the remuneration for the growth of oats; our soils are much more congenial to the growth of oats than wheat, and I should hardly consider myself justified in undertaking to give a general answer to this question.

In the Fens do you raise any canary?—Not at all; it is not known; we are now growing much more wheat than we have ever done; I think if oats were more protected, more would be grown and less wheat attempted.

What course do you adopt?—We are very irregular in our mode of cultivation; we grow about two-fifths corn, the other cole or turnips and grass.

You have stated, that if we imported foreign corn, a great quantity of labour would be thrown out of employment?—Of course.

Would this corn be obtained from abroad for nothing?—Nearly so; a very low price; but not sufficient to justify us in leaving our lands to go out of cultivation.

Could we obtain this corn from abroad, without giving an equal value for it in manufacture?—That is one of the questions I cannot answer.

Must we not pay for it in money or in manufactures?—It would not matter how we paid for it; I believe we have generally paid for it in money.

We must pay for it in something?—Yes.

Can that something be obtained without labour?—I am not competent to answer that question.

If the people of England employed less labour on their land, would they not have the means of employing more in manufactures?—That I would very much doubt; the agriculturist and his labourers would be capable of purchasing, if he was remunerated for his labour, a great deal of manufactured goods of the country.

If you sold your stock on your farm, and obtained five thousand pounds for it, might you not lend that five thousand pounds at interest, and would not that be employed in the country?—I think it could not be employed in the country; but that is one of the questions I do not feel myself competent to answer.

You have said that wages do not vary with the price of wheat?—Not in proportion with the variation of the price of wheat.

When you state, that the highest rent amounts to 50 shillings, you refer to the quality of the land?—Yes; I refer to the quality of the land partially.

You have been asked also, if it was possible at the time the importation of oats took place, for the farmers to have brought so large a quantity of oats to market, as to stop the inconvenience that arose; did you ever know it to happen, or do you conceive it to be possible, that the farmers, by any agreement or combination, can bring to market such a quantity of their produce, as to operate in the way you speak of?—I consider it is impossible for the farmers to combine together in any way, so as to produce any effect in the market.

Without combination, is it not the interest of the farmer to sell his oats, when they are so near the price at which the ports will be opened?—I believe the farmer is anxious, like every other person, to make the most of his produce; and if he believed the

the ports would not open, he would certainly withhold, and take advantage of a better market.

What would he do, if he thought the ports would be opened?—He would sell at the best price he could obtain, if it was a reduction of what it had been.

If he thought the ports would be opened, he would hurry his corn, and get the best price he could, and not wait for the ports being open?—Certainly.

Do you belong to the meeting of agriculturists, sitting now at Henderson's hotel?—I have, to a more or less degree, at the request of the petitioners, associated with them; but I am not influenced by any part they may have taken.

Have you been at any of their meetings lately?—I have occasionally been with Mr. Webbe Hall, but never at their meetings.

Have you had conversation with Mr. Webb Hall, respecting agricultural matters, and the evidence you were called upon to give before this Committee?—Not in the slightest degree with respect to the evidence; I have not been influenced from the central committee, if such is the term used.

Has Mr. Webb Hall suggested to you, any part of the evidence you have this day given?—Not in the slightest degree; the reason we have associated together is this, that the country have been anxious to have their distresses represented to the House; and they thought it probable, this was the more correct manner in which a fair representation would be made, through an association of persons thus forming themselves into a committee.

Mr. Job Lousley; Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you reside?—At Blewberry, in the county of Berks.

You are a farmer?—Yes.

Have you any labourers out of employment, or tradesmen on the parish?—There are at this time, at Blewberry, Berks, many labourers out of employment, and the number daily increasing; to show which, I beg leave to state, that I had at my house yesterday morning no less than five persons, who were discharged on the preceeding Saturday, not in consequence of there being no employment, (as work is just coming in) but in consequence of the inability of the farmers, at present prices, to pay them; and I think it likely, that twenty more will be discharged on the same account within a month; what greatly adds to this distress is, that many of those at present receiving relief, or who are likely to receive relief, are tradesmen of different kinds; as for instance, the persons at present unemployed of this description, consist of two blacksmiths, two tailors, two shoemakers, a collar-maker and a basket-maker; and I believe, there are other different tradesmen, likely soon to follow, if there is not some relief; and in the adjoining villages, the circumstances are nearly the same.

Are there many persons leaving their farms in consequence of distress, in your neighbourhood; and what is the extent of the distress?—There have been several failures in my neighbourhood, and some who have it in their power are now leaving their farms; and I believe, that it is only the hope of some relief being granted, that at this time prevents hundreds from leaving their farms. In fact, such has lately been the general distress, that during the numerous conversations I have had with the different farmers in my neighbourhood, I have never met with one, but what has acknowledged, when asked on the subject, that his losses on the crop of 1819 amounted to as much as his rental; and it is my firm opinion, that if the whole of the occupiers of land in Berks were examined on the subject, that nineteen out of twenty would declare this fact. A farmer of forty years standing has lately been distressed for rent, another is now upon the parish, who, but a little time ago, was worth 2,000 £.; and hundreds with very large families on the very brink of ruin, and who are obliged to mortgage the next crop of corn before they can gather in the same.

Can you account for the above distress?—I account for the above distress among farmers and tradesmen, in the following manner; the parish of Blewberry consists of about 4,000 acres of land, and the produce of the same when wheat averaged at 20 £. per load, and barley 40 s. per quarter, and other grain and stock in proportion, was worth about 18,000 £. when there was a fair crop; but now the prices are depressed one third; I calculate that it is worth no more than 12,000 £.; and, as I think, the money paid out of the village for rent and tithes, amounts to about 6,000 £. and for direct taxes, about 1,000 £.; there then remained at the former prices, about 11,000 £. to pay labourers, tradesmen, shopkeepers; and for all parties to purchase manufactured goods and implements, clothing, luxuries, &c. too tedious to mention, besides some ready money to cheerfully pay their bills; but now the prices have been and are so

Mr.
Thomas Orton.

(27 March.)

Mr.
Job Lousley.

(27 March.)

Mr.
Job Lousley.

(27 March.)

extremely depressed, and the rent, tithe and taxes are nearly the same, that instead of there being 10,000 *l.* there is not above 5,000 *l.* to accomplish all these necessary things; and the consequence is, that the labourers are unemployed as above stated; the tradesmen are applying to the parish for relief, the shopkeepers and manufacturers in large towns are without customers, except on credit; and as the whole neighbourhood are without trade in their different occupations, the country banks cannot keep their notes in circulation, and the consequence has been that many of them have failed, and others have retired from business; and I believe there is not much above half as many country bank notes in circulation as there were a few years since; at least, I can prove there are not above half as many banks in the county of Berks.

Are the poor better off than they used to be?—With very few exceptions, I believe the poor in the villages are far worse off than they were when the occupier of the soil was in prosperity; and indeed, some of the poor are nearly starving, especially those who are old and infirm; as for instance, poor old widows whose weekly pay now amounts to the sum of 2 *s.* one half of which is at least necessary in cold weather to buy firing, and the other half to buy bread, without one penny to buy all the other articles wanted; whereas if bread was higher, and they were paid in proportion to that bread, they would have considerably more to purchase other articles, and be far better off than at present; and as numbers of labourers are out of employ, they for the most part are reduced to bread allowance; and as bread is so low, and manufactured goods not much cheaper, they are extremely bad off, and very dissatisfied.

Upon the whole, to what do you ascribe the original cause of this distress?—Upon the whole, I ascribe the importation, duty free, to be the original, whole, and sole cause of the present distress; first by cultivating a foreign soil, and at the same time, driving an equal quantity of our own out of cultivation; secondly, employing foreign labourers, while at the same time, we are throwing the same number of our own out of employment; and thirdly, paying the foreign farmer, the foreign landlord, and the foreign tradesmen the money that ought to help pay the taxes of this kingdom.

Do you think any abatement of rent would afford any relief?—I think no abatement of rent would give any sufficient relief, at the present prices, because it is impossible for the farmer to pay a fair rent, except wheat is 80 *s.* a quarter; barley, 40 *s.* a quarter, and other things in proportion; if wheat is as low as it is now—it is now 60 *s.* a quarter, and barley about 23 *s.* or 24 *s.* a quarter;—the whole abatement of the rent would not relieve us, because we consider the rent to be about one fourth the price of the produce; and if wheat sells at 15 *l.* a load, as it does at present, the whole abatement of the rent would not relieve us; besides, the abatement of the rent would act in another way to our injury; if rents were abated, the landlords must live saving; they must discharge their servants, and those servants would be thrown upon the parish; therefore, an abatement of rent, and discharge of servants would act very detrimental, as gentlemen's servants are of no use to agriculture; and besides, they must buy less manufactured goods, which would injure the manufacturers in the same proportion; therefore, no abatement of the rent would be a sufficient relief.

Are taxes in arrear in your county?—No, not that I know of, but that is no reason why there should be no distress.

How do you make out, if there are no taxes in arrear, that the country is distressed?—I make it out in this manner; that many agriculturists are indebted in great sums of money to different people, perhaps to three parts the amount of their capital; and that, if they were to let their taxes get in arrear, they would be seized upon for the same, which would call all their creditors upon them, and instant ruin would follow; therefore, it is the agriculturists' interest to take care that the taxes are paid, if they are obliged to borrow money from other quarters to pay the same.

Are the rents in arrear?—There are some, but not many; I hear there are some seizures.

Can you state the average rent per acre, of the district you are speaking of?—No; I rent my farm at about 11 *s.* per acre; and it varies from that to as high as 2 *l.*

Is it a flock farm?—I keep sheep upon it; but it is not kind land for sheep, it is too cold. I keep a breeding flock.

You have stated the distress, can you state any remedy?—The only relief in my opinion, is a duty upon all the productions of foreign nations, equal to the difference of expense on the growing them, in this country and abroad.

Suppose foreign wheat was brought here at 4 *s.* a bushel, what ought the duty to be?—The duty ought to be sufficient to raise it to 19 *l.* or 20 *l.* a load, or nine or ten shillings

shillings a bushel; and there would then be a sufficient profit for the speculator; 5 s. a bushel ought to be put on.

Would that answer?—Yes.

What is the remunerating price?—The remunerating price for a farmer ought to be 20 l. a load.

Ought not the protecting duty to bring it up to 20 l. a load?—I should think so, because no persons would speculate in it then, if there was no profit.

How much profit would a farmer get upon his capital, if wheat was 4 l. a quarter?—Only five per cent. I have here, which I wish to deliver in, some statements; one is of the poor rates in the parish of Hagbourn, of which I am churchwarden; and also a statement of the price of the gallon loaf; also an account of the poor rates of the parish of Blewberry; and also an account of the wheat grown in 1819, on my farm, with the price it sold for.

Mr.
Job Lousley.

(27 March.)

[The Witness delivered in the following papers:]

The parish of Hagbourn, Berks, contains 2,635 acres; 2,015 acres of which are arable, 319 of which are common and waste, 163 of which are meadow, and the other 138 consist of orchards, gardens, buildings, &c.; and the following is as near as I could make out, the account of the poor rates, ever since the year 1813, and including that year, exclusive of church rates and surveyors rates, both of which are kept in a separate account, and which are high, especially the latter:

			£.	s.	d.				s.	d.
In 1813,	money collected	-	1,083	14	5	-	price of the gallon loaf	-	2	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
1814	ditto	-	1,015	15	0	-	ditto	-	1	10
1815	ditto	-	812	16	3	-	ditto	-	1	8
1816	ditto	-	380	0	5	-	ditto	-	1	5
1817	ditto	-	1,286	8	2	-	ditto	-	1	11
1818	ditto	-	1,492	2	6	-	ditto	-	2	0
1819	ditto	-	1,500	0	0	-	ditto	-	1	11
1820	ditto	-	948	5	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	ditto	-	1	7

In the year 1819 and some time before, there were out of employ upwards of 40 men, both able and willing to work (many of whom were tradesmen,) in consequence of the distress of agriculture; and as they were obliged to be maintained, the poor rates were increased enormously, at least one third; and it may be remarked, that the decrease in the year 1820, is not any favourable symptom, as there would most likely have been a greater number out of employ than ever, had not the farmers agreed to take each a share of the unemployed men, and pay them out of their own pockets; and in dividing them, it amounted to about one man to every 50 acres, who are a most heavy burden on their hands. In the year 1818, I occupied about 200 acres of land at Hagbourn, and although I employed my usual number of labourers, and paid them in full, yet my poor rates in that year amounted to the enormous sum of 121 l. or 12 s. per acre.

The Disbursements of the Overseers of Blewberry, County of Berks; commencing Michaelmas, 1812:

Michaelmas, 1812:										£.	s.	d.
In Easter	1813	-	-	one year	-	-	-	1,066	6	9		
ditto	1814	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	809	14	9		
ditto	1815	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	651	1	8		
ditto	1816	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	682	5	6		
ditto	1817	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	761	4	8		
ditto	1818	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	999	4	10		
ditto	1819	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	1,001	17	0		
ditto	1820	-	-	- ditto	-	-	-	964	13	3		

In 1812-13, Wheat sold for grinding, at 35 l. per load.

— Oats 35 s. per quarter.

— Barley 60 s. per quarter.

In 1819-20, Wheat sold at 15 l. 15 s. per load.

— Oats 26 s. per quarter.

— Barley ditto per quarter.

Mr.
Job Lousley.

(27 March.)

ACCOUNT of Wheat grown in 1819, on a Farm occupied by Job Lousley, Blewberry, Berks, with the price it sold for; part of which was sold every month in the year.

At Michaelmas, 1819, the crop was harvested, consisting of 90 acres, when it appeared to be a very large one; but on thrashing the same, the total amount was $174\frac{1}{2}$ quarters, and the whole of which produced only the sum of 551*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* or about 15*l.* 15*s.* per load, or 63*s.* per quarter; a sum very far from a remunerating price; and I can make oath that I lost by the said farm, nearly 500*l.* in that year.

Are you a member of the meeting at Henderson's hotel?—Yes.

Are you acquainted with Mr. Webbe Hall?—Yes.

Have you had any conversation with him, as to the evidence you were to give here?—No; the evidence I have given, I wrote down this morning, and he never saw it.

Have you had conversations with him?—Yes; but never upon the evidence I was to give here; he has not seen any of these papers, and I have never had any conversation with him upon the subject.

Can you state to the Committee, whether the crops were good or bad, last year?—Very good.

Was it more than an average crop?—About a good average crop; wheat, barley and oats, and every thing else; the year before, we had a very deficient crop.

Does your observation enable you to state generally as to the county of Berks, or only a particular part?—Generally, all over the county; I visit all the markets.

Have you been into other counties than Berkshire?—No; I have not been out of the county myself to make observations, but I have conversed with other farmers.

Mr. William Ilott; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
William Ilott.

WHERE do you reside?—At Abbey Milton, near Blandford, Dorsetshire.

Have you any statements you wish to lay before the Committee?—Yes, I have.

(27 March.)

[*The Witness produced and delivered in the following Statements;*]

“I wish to state to this Honourable Committee, by the following facts, that neither the poor's rate or the expenses of mechanical labour of a farm, are lessened, although the prices of produce have lessened so very materially. The following particulars will show, that the poor's rate in most parishes has advanced, taking six years from Easter 1808 to Easter 1814, and from Easter 1814 to Easter 1820; it will also be found that many labourers would be unemployed, had not the occupier agreed to take them as roundsmen; and had not that been done, the poor's rate would have swelled to a much greater amount.

“I wish also to show, by the following Statements, No. 1 and 2, the expenses and produce of arable lands, in Dorsetshire, taken from actual valuations, as matters of business, in almost every district of the county; and to show thereby, the losses the farmers are now sustaining; as well as to show at what prices for grain, the farmer would be remunerated, for the employment of his skill, capital and labour, and enable him to meet the taxation of the country.

“I can also state to the Committee, that since the commencement of the year 1815, I can give them the names of nearly fifty occupiers, who occupied to the amount of 24,000 acres, who have actually failed in this county, within my knowledge, and who, if not reduced to pauperism, are reduced to a dependence on the benevolence of their friends, or to labour for their daily bread. In many of the cases, I was employed to make the valuations of stock and crops, and to settle other matters of difference; but I wish that their names may not be printed, but only that their number, and the number of acres they altogether occupied, may be made public.”

Amount of BLACKSMITH'S BILLS, on my own Farm, from Midsummer 1810 to Midsummer 1815, five Years; and from Midsummer 1815 to Midsummer 1820, five Years; thereby showing the Difference between the Amount of Expense.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
July 1811, Paid Bill - - -	40	1	6	July 1816, Paid Bill - - -	35	9	—
D° 1812, Paid two Bills, total	34	4	6	D° 1817, Paid Bill - - -	50	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
D° 1813, Paid Bill - - -	32	15	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	January 1818, Paid Bill for half year - - -	28	5	—
D° 1814, Paid Bill - - -	49	18	6	Paid Bill for repairing Iron-work of a Waggon, not charged, £. 18.			
D° 1815, Paid Bill - - -	28	13	2	January 1819, Paid Bill - - -	29	16	8
Total of first five years £.	185	12	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	D° - 1820, Paid Bill - - -	30	17	6
				July 1820, Paid Bill, half year -	15	7	10
				Total of last five years £.	190	6	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
					185	12	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
				Increase in the last five years £.	4	13	10

(Signed)

William Ilott,

Abbey Milton, Dorset.

Amount of CARPENTER'S BILLS, from January 1810 to January 1815, five Years; and from January 1815 to January 1820, five Years; thereby showing the Difference of each five Years.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
January 1811, Paid Bill - - -	24	4	—	January 1816, Paid Bill - - -	23	3	7
D° - 1812, Paid d° - - -	27	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	D° - 1817, Paid d° - - -	42	18	7
D° - 1813, Paid d° - - -	21	7	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	D° - 1818, Paid d° - - -	27	4	10
D° - 1814, Paid d° - - -	42	1	—	D° - 1819, Paid d° - - -	37	7	—
D° - 1815, Paid d° - - -	19	11	8	D° - 1820, Paid d° - - -	31	13	5
Total of first five years £.	134	19	7	Total of last five years £.	162	7	5
					134	19	7
				Increase in the last five years £.	27	7	10

(Signed)

William Ilott,

Abbey Milton, Dorset.

Mr.
William Ilott.

No. 1.—STATEMENT THE FIRST.

(27 March.)

UNDER THE FOUR FIELD SYSTEM OF - -	TURNIPS.	BARLEY.	CLOVERS.	WHEAT.
1820	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Rent 25s. Tithe 6s. 3d. per acre per annum, Total				
per acre - - - - -	1 11 3	1 11 3	1 11 3	1 11 3
Poor Rates - - - - -	- 5 -	- 5 -	- 5 -	- 5 -
Church Rates, &c. - - - - -	- - 6	- - 6	- - 6	- - 6
Horse Taxes - - - - -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -
Window Tax - - - - -	- - 6	- - 6	- - 6	- - 6
Highway Duty, Wear and Tear of Carts and Tools	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6
Fallowing, Men, Horses, &c. first time for Turnips	- 12 -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Other ploughing for Turnips, Barley, and Wheat	1 10 -	- 12 -	- - -	- 14 -
Scuffling or nine Shearing between the different				
Ploughings - - - - -	- 10 -	- 5 -	- - -	- 5 -
Draggings and Harrowings when the Seed was sown	- 3 -	- - -	- 1 3	- 5 4
Rollings - - - - -	- 2 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 6
Carriage of Manure for the turnip land - - -	1 - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Turning, filling, &c. of the above manure - - -	- 5 -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Value of the Seed in the year 1819				
Liming, burning, &c. - - - - -	- 2 -	- 18 -	- 15 -	1 10 -
Couch burning, &c. on the turnip land - - -	- 2 -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Hoeing Turnips and weeding Corn, including Beer	- 8 -	- 2 -	- 1 -	- 2 -
Clodding and guttering and water furrowing - -	- - -	- 1 -	- - -	- 2 -
Reaping and Mowing, Forking and Raking, &c.				
including Beer - - - - -	- - -	- 5 -	- 5 -	- 10 -
Thatching Ricks, Spars included - - - - -	- - -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -
Harvest-carting, Men, &c. Beer included - - -	- - -	- 10 -	- 5 -	- 7 -
Carriage to Barns and to thrash, Men and Horses,				
Beer, &c. - - - - -	- - -	- 3 -	- - -	- 2 6
Thrashing and winnowing, and other Expenses in				
Beer, &c. - - - - -	- - -	- 10 -	- - -	- 14 -
Expenses of Sale, Riding Horse included, packing				
of Turnips, &c. - - - - -	- 4 -	- 2 -	- - -	- 2 -
Carriage to Market, &c. - - - - -	- - -	- 5 -	- - -	- 5 -
Casualties from failing Crops or bad Seasons - -	- 2 -	- 2 -	- 2 -	- 2 -
Depredations and Losses by Birds, &c. - - -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -
Attendance of Sheep - - - - -	- 2 -	- 2 -	- 2 -	- 2 -
Wear and Tear of Hurdles, &c. - - - - -	- - -	- - 6	- - 6	- - 6
Interest of Capital, suppose 800 <i>l.</i> to manage the				
100 acres, will be 8 <i>l.</i> per acre, which at 10 <i>l.</i>				
per cent amounts to 16 <i>s.</i> per acre per annum,				
and includes the Interest on the above items,				
as well as on the Capital expended in pur-				
chasing the necessary live and dead Stock on				
the Farm - - - - -	- 16 -	- 16 -	- 16 -	- 16 -
£.	7 19 3	6 16 3	4 10 6	8 2 7

N.B.—The average Expense of the different crops of the 100 acres, is £.6. 17*s.* 13*d.* }
per acre, allowing 10 per cent on the capital employed, and amounts to - - }

£. s. d.
685 14 7

Average produce of the county of Dorset, as follows:				£. s. d.
25 Acres of Turnips 40 <i>s.</i> per acre, is as much as they will pay on				
an average - - - - -				50 - -
25 Acres of Barley at 4 quarters per acre, 100 quarters at 24 <i>s.</i>				
per quarter - - - - -				125 - -
25 Acres of Clovers made into Hay, say 31 tons, and only 50 <i>s.</i> per				
ton charged, as it is not allowed to be sold off the farm,				
average price 50 <i>s.</i> per ton - - - - -				77 10 -
To the feed of 25 acres of aftermath Clover at 10 <i>s.</i> per acre - -				12 10 -
25 Acres of Wheat at 20 bushels per acre, 500 bushels at 7 <i>s.</i> per				
bushel - - - - -				175 - -
The value of the straw of 50 acres of Corn to spend on the				
premises, at 10 <i>s.</i> per acre - - - - -				25 - -
The value of the feed of 50 acres of Stubble with Sheep, at 3 <i>s.</i> per				
acre - - - - -				7 10 -
				472 10 0
Loss on the cultivation of the 100 Acres - - -			£.	213 4 7

Or £.56. 19*s.* 7*d.* lost by the occupation, more than the whole of the Rent and Tithe when put together.

The

Mr.
William Ilott.

(27 March.)

The aforesaid calculation shows, that the present prices of produce are more than one-third below what would be the fair remunerating price to the cultivators of the soil, for their employment of skill, capital and labour; and that in years of fair common average of crops, wheat cannot be grown in this country for less than 96 s. per quarter, and all other grain in the same proportion, even under the favourable circumstances of moderate charges for rent and tithe as before stated; and that on poor cold lands it cannot be continued to be grown even at that price, as the expenses on such sort of land would be much greater than stated in this particular.

That the following calculations are stated to show, that the statements N° 1. and 2. are correct; and that they nearly agree in the sum total of expenses as well as on the loss sustained on the occupation.

1820.				£.	s.	d.
The Rent of 100 acres of Arable Land at 25 s. per acre, amounts to	-	-	-	125	—	—
The Tithe of 100 acres of Arable Land at $\frac{1}{4}$ is 6s. 3d. per acre, which amounts to the sum of	-	-	-	31	5	—
The Parish and County Rates on 100 acres of Arable Land at 5 s. per acre, amounts to the sum of	-	-	-	25	—	—

Wear and Tear of Implements required on 100 Acres of Arable Land, per Annum; or, the annual radical Decay, exclusive of Carpenters and Blacksmiths Bills.

	£.	s.	d.
2 Waggon, at 25 s. each	2	10	—
2 Carts, at 10 s. d°	1	—	—
2 Ploughs, at 10 s. d° (Tackle included)	1	—	—
2 Harrows, at 3 s. d° (Tackle included)	—	6	—
1 Drag, at 5 s. d° (Tackle included)	—	5	—
1 Roller, at 4 s. d°	—	4	—
10 Pair of Harness, at 2s. 6d. d° (5 Sets for carting, and 5 Sets d° for Plough)	1	5	—
Thrashing Machine (the corn to be thrashed by the Flail)	—	—	—
Winnowing d°	—	10	—
Barn Implements	—	10	—
20 Dozen Hurdles	4	—	—
6 Sheep Cribs	—	10	—
Prongs and Rakes	—	5	—
Cart Ropes	—	8	—
Household Utensils, Brewing d°, Casks, &c.	2	10	—

Annual Bills.

Carpenter's Bill	10	—	—
Blacksmith's and Farrier's Bill	15	—	—
Collarmaker's Bill	3	8	—
	£.	44	11

} Refer to the Bills
of my Farm.

N. B.—This does not include the Wear and Tear, or Loss of Cattle, nor Casualties in Stock and Crop, which sometimes is very great; and the decline of value of Farm Horses, including risk, may be stated at 40s. each per annum.

1820.—Manual Labour required on 100 Acres of Arable Land.

	£.	s.	d.
2 Regular Men, 52 weeks at 10s. per week each, including Cottage and Garden	52	—	—
Fuel and Potatoe Ground	4	—	—
Additional Wages for Harvest, 4 weeks at 5 s. each	2	—	—
Beer during the Harvest, at 20 s. each	2	—	—
2 Boys, 52 weeks at 3s. 6d. per week each	18	4	—
Extra Wages for Harvesting and Beer for two Boys, 10 s. 6d. each	1	1	—
1 Man to look over Sheep and other extra Stock, hedging, ditching, and other work, 52 weeks at 10 s. per week, including Cottage and Garden	26	—	—
Fuel and Potatoe Ground	2	—	—
Weeding 50 Acres of Corn, at 2 s. per acre	5	—	—
Hoeing 25 Acres of Turnips and Beer included, at 8 s. per acre	10	—	—
Making 25 Acres of Hay and Ricking, and Beer, at 8 s. per acre (extra labour)	10	—	—
Harvesting and ricking 50 Acres of Corn, Beer included, at 10 s. per acre (extra labour)	25	—	—
Thrashing and Winnowing 60½ Quarters of Wheat, at 5 s. per quarter, Beer, &c. (extra labour)	15	12	6
Thrashing and Winnowing 100 Quarters of Barley, at 2 s. per quarter, Beer, &c. (extra labour)	10	—	—
The manual Labour of 100 Acres amounts to the Sum of	£.	182	17 6

} Refer to the
Labour of my
Farm.

} This is extra
Labour of the
Farm.

Mr.
William Ilott.

Seed required to plant 100 Acres of Arable Land.

	£.	s.	d.	
(27 March.) 25 Acres of Wheat, at 3 bushels per acre, is 75 bushels, at 10 s. per bushel	37	10	—	For the Produce of the Year 1820.
25 Acres of Barley, at 4 bushels per acre, is 100 bushels, at 4 s. 9 d. per bushel	23	15	—	
25 Acres of Clover, namely, 25 bushels of Rye-grass, at 1 bushel per acre, is 25 bushels, at 5 s. per bushel	6	5	—	
Red Clover, &c. 10 lb. per acre, is 250 lbs. at 9 d. per lb.	9	7	6	
25 Acres of Turnips, at 3 lb. per acre, is 75 lbs. at 6 d. per lb.	1	17	6	
The Seed for 100 Acres amounts to the Sum of	£.	78	15	—

The Manure for 100 Acres of Arable Land is supposed to arise on the same, therefore no charge is made.

The EXPENSE of Horses required on 100 Acres of Arable Land.

Expense of keeping each Horse, as follows :		£.	s.	d.
26 Weeks, at 2 bushels of Oats per week, is 52 bushels at 4 s. per bushel		10	8	—
26 Weeks, at 1 bushel of Oats per week, is 26 bushels at 4 s.		5	4	—
Additional Allowance of half bushel Beans per week for 26 weeks, is 13 bushels at 6 s. per bushel		3	18	—
Grass, or Vetches, during the summer half year, 26 weeks, at 2 s. 6 d. per week		3	5	—
Hay and Straw during the winter half year, 26 weeks, at 2 s. per week		2	12	—
The Expense of each Horse	£.	25	7	—
Interest on Capital of £.800, as in the first Statement, at £.10 per cent				80 — —
Assessed Tax on Five Horses, as in the first Statement, at 17 s. 6 d. each Horse				4 7 6
				5 Horses - - 126 15 —

No. 2.—A STATEMENT of the Expenses of managing 100 Acres of Arable Land, under the Four Field system of Turnips, Barley, Clovers, Wheat :

		£.	s.	d.	Additional Remarks.
Rent per Acre -	The Rent of 100 Acres of Arable Land of medium quality, at 25 s. per Acre, amounts to the sum of -	125	—	—	The prices given relates to the Arable Lands only, and does not include other Lands of the Farm, and is estimated at present Rents.
Tithe - - -	The Tithes of ditto, at 6 s. 3 d. per Acre - - - - -	31	5	—	
Parish Rates -	The Parish and County Rates, at 5 s. per Acre - - - - -	25	—	—	Estimated at the present Rents.
Wear and Tear	Under the article of Wear and Tear, it is supposed that the Farm will require 2 Waggon, 2 Carts, 2 Ploughs, 2 Harrows, 1 Drag and 1 Roller and Winnowing Apparatus, Hurdles and Sheep Cribs, Harness for five Horses, with various other implements; nearly the whole of which is generally of necessity exposed to every change of the atmosphere; and the annual decay is but seldom sufficiently brought into the calculation of the Farmer, and never by the Surveyor of Lands; and upon a Farm of 100 Acres of Arable Land, it will amount to upwards of 3 s. per Acre per annum, and including Blacksmiths, Carpenters, and Collar-makers Bills, and other mechanics, for repairing and mending the same, will amount to - -	44	11	—	Under the article of Wear and Tear is included the annual decay in the value of the Implements, as well as the expenses of repairing and mending the same.

No. 2.—A Statement of the Expenses of managing 100 Acres of Arable Land, &c.—continued.

(27 March.)

		Additional Remarks.
Labour - - -	Under this article is included the manual labour of the Farm of all sorts, (except mechanical labour, which is placed with the expenses of Wear and Tear) and as the labour of the field is liable at times to be suspended, and much time lost by wet weather, &c. it is found very expensive, and upon a Farm of 100 Acres of Arable Land for the year 1820, if properly cultivated, will amount to nearly one-fifth more than the Rent and Tithe put together, or to the sum of - - - - -	If the Farm is managed under the five-field system, the expenses of manual labour will not amount to so much, by nearly one-fifth, and the amount of the produce of the Farm will be lessened, but not in the same proportion; but then Rent, Tithe, and Taxes will remain the same, on a lessened produce.
	182 17 6	
Seed - - - -	To seed the Land for 25 Acres of Wheat, ditto of Barley, ditto of Clover, ditto of Turnips, total 100 Acres, for the crop of 1820, under the broadcast system, was worth -	The Seed is charged in this account, Wheat at 10s. and Barley 4s. 6d. per bushel, for the year 1820, and much was purchased at a higher price.
	78 15 6	
Manure - - -	None is supposed to be used except the produce of the Farm, the preparation of which, and the whole of the labour attending it, is charged with the other labours of the Farm.	
Teams - - -	Upon an average of Soils it will require five Horses to properly cultivate, and do the carriage of Manure, harvesting Hay and Corn, Road duty, carriage to the Barns, Market, &c. upon a Farm of 100 Acres of Arable Land; and to keep them in good working condition, for the year 1820, was worth £. 25. 7s. per head, (exclusive of attendance)	If the tillage of the Farm is very light, and managed under the five-field system, four Horses might be sufficient, and the produce will be less than allowed in this particular.
	126 15 —	
Interest of Capital }	It will be found, that upon an average of the Arable Lands of this county, that it will require a capital of from £. 6 to £. 10 per Acre, to stock and crop them, and to provide for the Labour, Rent and Taxes, &c. to the end of the year. The Rent and Tithe, and other Expenses of this Farm, without the first cost of Stock and Implements, will amount to £. 600 take the average £. 8 or £. 800 capital, at £. 10 per cent per annum - - - - -	N. B.—As 10 per cent. is allowed on the capital employed; as the whole of the occupier's profits, for the support of himself and family; and which if it was actually realized would be but a small income for a wife and family; what must his feelings be, when instead of realizing a profit, he finds his little capital sinking fast to ruin.
	80 — —	
Horse Tax - -	The Horse Tax for five Horses, at 17s. 6d. per head, amounts to the sum of - - - - -	No Riding Horse is allowed in this account.
	4 7 6	
	698 11 6	
	C ^t by Produce, as stated in N ^o 1 472 10 —	
	Loss on the cultivation of the } £. 100 Acres } 226 1 6	

N. B.—That the before-mentioned calculations, founded on facts, fully and fairly prove the truth, that the present prices of agricultural produce, is more than one-third below what would be the fair remunerating price for the employment of skill, capital and labour; and the following calculations will show, at what price the Farmer would be remunerated for the employment of skill, capital and labour.

Mr.
William Ilott.

(27 March.)

Supposing the rent, tithe and other expenses, to remain the same as in the before mentioned statements, and allowing 10 s. per bushel on the sale price of the wheat, and 5 s. per bushel on the barley, but in years of common average the barley crop will not produce more than seven sacks, say four quarters per acre, the account would then stand as under, namely :

Farm, Dr.—To Expenses as before stated -		£.	s.	d.
		698	11	6
Cr.—Produce of the County of Dorset, on an average of years.				
25 Acres of Turnips at 40 s. per acre, is as much as they will make on an average, on this scale -	£.	s.	d.	
	50	—	—	
25 Acres of Barley at 4 quarters per acre, 100 quarters at 40 s. per quarter -	200	—	—	
Or worth { 25 Acres of Clovers made into Hay, say 31 tons, to be spent on the premises as agreeable to the usual covenants in leases, average price 50 s. per ton -	77	10	—	
3 l. per. acre to feed. {	12	10	—	
To the feed of 25 acres of aftermath Clovers at 10 s. per acre -	250	—	—	
25 Acres of Wheat at 20 bushels per acre, 500 bushels at 10 s. per bushel -	25	—	—	
The value of the straw of 50 acres of Corn to spend on the premises, at 10 s. per acre -	7	10	—	
The value of the feed of 50 acres of Stubble to be fed with sheep, at 3 s. per acre -				
				622 10 6
Loss -	£.	76	1	6

On the above statement will be found a loss of 76 l. 1 s. 6 d. or nearly the whole of the 80 l. allowed in statements N^o 1. and 2. to the cultivator, for the interest of his capital employed ; and shows that if the occupier of arable land could receive on an average of years and crops, the sale price for his grain as above stated, that under the present circumstances of taxation it would not give him scarcely any per-centage on his capital employed ; and that nothing short of better protection and higher money values for produce, than even those above stated, can compete with the present taxation of this country, and that nothing short of the following values on an average of years, can meet the expenses of cultivation ; and as the expenses of cultivation would in some instances advance in price with the advance of values, and reckoning on present rents and tithes remaining the same, the following statement of expenses and produce will be found to be such as may remunerate the occupiers, for the employment of their skill, capital and labour.

Suppose the rent, tithe and parish and county rates, wear and tear, and mechanics bills to remain the same, with some little advance on labour, seed and keep of horses ; also allowing an advance on the produce as hereafter stated, the account would stand as follows :

Farm, Dr. to Expenses will stand as follows, namely -		£.	s.	d.
		730	—	—
Cr.—Produce of the County of Dorset, on an average of years.				
25 Acres of Turnips at 50 s. per acre on this advanced scale -	£.	s.	d.	
	62	10	—	
25 Acres of Barley at 4 quarters per acre, 100 quarters at 44 s. per quarter -	220	—	—	
25 Acres of Clovers made into Hay, 31 ton at 3 l. per ton, to spend on the premises -	93	—	—	
To the feed of 25 acres of aftermath Clover at 12 s. per acre -	15	—	—	
25 Acres of Wheat at 20 bushels per acre, 500 bushels at 12 s. per bushel -	300	—	—	
The value of the straw of 50 acres of Corn to spend on the premises, at 12 s. per acre -	30	—	—	
The value of the feed of 50 acres of Stubble, to be fed with sheep, at 3 s. 6 d. per acre -	8	15	—	
				729 5 —
Loss on the balance -	£.	—	15	—

N. B.—The above calculations are matters of fact, and show that nothing less than the following prices can meet the expenses of cultivation and the taxation of the country, namely ; Wheat from 12 s. to 12 s. 6 d. per bushel ; Barley 5 s. 6 d. per bushel, and other produce in the same proportion, which will then leave nothing to make good the loss from casualties in stock, &c.

(Signed)

William Ilott.

Mr.
William Ilott.

(27 March.)

A PARTICULAR of the Distress of Tenants, and Failures which have taken place within my knowledge, since the beginning of the year 1815. On many of the cases I was employed in making valuations of stock and crops, and in settling other matters of differences; and if not reduced to pauperism, in most instances are entirely dependent on the benevolence of their friends, or to daily labour for their bread.

[The Witness here produced a list of the names and occupation of 50 farmers, renting 24,000 acres, failed since 1815, but which list he requested might not be made public.]

Fifty-two persons who occupied about 24,038 acres of land, have failed in my neighbourhood, and within my knowledge as before stated, is the whole of the evidence I wish to give on the above cases of distress.

William Ilott,

Abbey Milton, Dorset.

The AMOUNT of Poor's Rate in the Parish of Winterborne, Kingston, County of Dorset, for the last 13 years.

The Year	1808	-	-	-	£.	s.	d.	The Year	1814	-	-	-	£.	s.	d.
—	1809	-	-	-	275	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1815	-	-	-	471	9	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
—	1810	-	-	-	237	19	7	—	1816	-	-	-	287	—	4
—	1811	-	-	-	299	7	8	—	1817	-	-	-	284	8	—
—	1812	-	-	-	441	18	1	—	1818	-	-	-	352	15	—
—	1813	-	-	-	327	1	2	—	1819	-	-	-	441	9	— $\frac{1}{2}$
					541	16	3 $\frac{1}{2}$		1820	-	-	-	555	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
													448	13	2

We beg to observe, that within the last two years we have had from twenty to thirty able labourers distributed amongst the different farmers in the parish, as Roundsmen. They were actually extra men, who usually got their employment out of the parish, otherwise the poor's rate would have been one-third more for the last two years.

James Burgess, Churchwarden.

John Little, Overseer.

An ACCOUNT of the Poor Rates, from Easter 1809 to March 25th, 1820, in the Parish of Winterborne Whitechurch, in the County of Dorset.

The Year	1809	-	-	-	Number of Rates.	At per Rate.	Total Expended.
—	1810	-	-	-	31	£. 4 s. 6 d. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	£. 152 s. 12 d. 5
—	1811	-	-	-	42	- D° -	184 16 2
—	1812	-	-	-	47	- D° -	207 7 3
—	1813	-	-	-	50	- D° -	222 8 6
—	1814	-	-	-	58	- D° -	243 9 10
—	1815	-	-	-	69	- D° -	299 2 11
—	1816	-	-	-	60	- D° -	257 13 9
—	1817	-	-	-	60	- D° -	254 18 5
—	1818	-	-	-	66	- D° -	298 — 4
—	1819	-	-	-	85	- D° -	367 7 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
—	1820	-	-	-	90	- D° -	397 6 1
					128 $\frac{1}{2}$	- D° -	569 — 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

J. Dowland, Churchwarden.

Henry Tookes, Overseer.

Mr.
William Ilott.

(27 March.)

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of Poor's Rates collected in the Parish of Stulbridge,
Dorsetshire.

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	36	22	15	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	819 6 9
— 1809 d° 1810	-	-	-	40	22	15	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	910 7 6
— 1810 d° 1811	-	-	-	40	23	1	11	923 16 8
— 1811 d° 1812	-	-	-	40	23	1	11	923 16 8
— 1812 d° 1813	-	-	-	8 a new rate	195	11	8	1,564 13 4
— 1813 d° 1814	-	-	-	7	195	11	8	1,369 1 8
— 1814 d° 1815	-	-	-	7	189	2	5	1,323 16 11
— 1815 d° 1816	-	-	-	4	195	15	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	783 — 9
— 1816 d° 1817	-	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	188	19	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,039 7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1817 d° 1818	-	-	-	8	195	10	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,564 7 2
— 1818 d° 1819	-	-	-	7	195	10	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,368 16 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
— 1819 d° 1820	-	-	-	7	197	1	— $\frac{1}{4}$	1,379 7 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
In the six years	-	-	-	on Houses	-	-	-	104 7 11
Total					£.			14,074 5 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

There have been thirty Men working on the Roads in the Parish of Stulbridge, but at this time reduced to fifteen.

Stulbridge,
March 23, 1821.

Sam^l Lewis, Churchwarden.
Sam^l Harris, Overseer.

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of Poor's Rates collected in the Parish of Milton Abbas,
Dorsetshire, from the year 1809 to the year 1820.

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	13	34	—	—	442 — —
— 1809 d° 1810	-	-	-	15	-	D°	-	510 — —
— 1810 d° 1811	-	-	-	19	-	D°	-	646 — —
— 1811 d° 1812	-	-	-	16	-	D°	-	544 — —
— 1812 d° 1813	-	-	-	23	-	D°	-	782 — —
— 1813 d° 1814	-	-	-	22	-	D°	-	748 — —
— 1814 d° 1815	-	-	-	18	-	D°	-	612 — —
— 1815 d° 1816	-	-	-	17	-	D°	-	578 — —
— 1816 d° 1817	-	-	-	19	-	D°	-	646 — —
— 1817 d° 1818	-	-	-	29	-	D°	-	986 — —
— 1818 d° 1819	-	-	-	28	-	D°	-	952 — —
— 1819 d° 1820	-	-	-	25	-	D°	-	850 — —
Total					£.			8,296 — —

In this Parish many Labourers are employed as Roundsmen and on the Road, and was it not for the goodness of the Right honourable Lady Caroline Damer, in taking many of them, there would be a great number.

William Ilott.

An ACCOUNT of Monies disbursed for the use of the Poor, in the Parish of Hilton, in the County of Dorset, from the year 1808 to 1820, both years inclusive.

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	110	2	12	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	290 13 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1809 d° 1810	-	-	-	150	-	D°	-	396 8 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1810 d° 1811	-	-	-	130	-	D°	-	343 11 — $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1811 d° 1812	-	-	-	150	-	D°	-	396 8 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1812 d° 1813	-	-	-	180	-	D°	-	475 13 9
— 1813 d° 1814	-	-	-	140	-	D°	-	369 19 7
— 1814 d° 1815	-	-	-	20	19	11	3	391 5 —
— 1815 d° 1816	-	-	-	24	-	D°	-	469 10 —
— 1816 d° 1817	-	-	-	21	-	D°	-	410 16 3
— 1817 d° 1818	-	-	-	24	-	D°	-	469 10 —
— 1818 d° 1819	-	-	-	29	-	D°	-	567 6 3
— 1819 d° 1820	-	-	-	28	-	D°	-	547 15 —
Total					£.			5,129 1 1

Hilton,
19th March, 1821.

John Shephard, Overseer.
George Bolls, Churchwarden.

Dear Sir,—The above is a correct Statement of the Monies expended in our Parish, for the last twelve Years, hoping it will meet your approbation,

I remain, dear Sir, your obedient servant,
W^m Fookes.

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of Poor's Rates, collected in the Parish of Okeford-fitzpaine, in the County Dorset, from the Year 1808 to the Year 1820.

Mr.
William Ilott.

(27 March.)

				£.	s.	d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	248	10	—
— 1809 d ^o 1810	-	-	-	314	9	9
— 1810 d ^o 1811	-	-	-	314	9	9
— 1811 d ^o 1812	-	-	-	343	7	8
— 1812 d ^o 1813	-	-	-	327	16	4½
— 1813 d ^o 1814	-	-	-	312	4	2
				£.	1,860	17 8½
				£.	s.	d.
From the Year 1814 to the Year 1815	-	-	-	280	13	9
— 1815 d ^o 1816	-	-	-	265	3	3½
— 1816 d ^o 1817	-	-	-	269	—	7½
— 1817 d ^o 1818	-	-	-	430	9	—
— 1818 d ^o 1819	-	-	-	376	12	10½
— 1819 d ^o 1820	-	-	-	376	12	10½
				£.	1,998	12 5

John Trowbridge, Churchwarden.
John Hallett, Overseer.

AMOUNT of Poor Rate of the Parish of St. Mary's, Blandford, in the County of Dorset, from Easter 1808 to Easter 1820.

				£.	s.	d.
Amount from Easter 1808 to Easter 1809	-	-	-	269	19	5
D ^o - - - 1809 - - - 1810	-	-	-	172	2	10
D ^o - - - 1810 - - - 1811	-	-	-	271	10	3
D ^o - - - 1811 - - - 1812	-	-	-	312	15	6
D ^o - - - 1812 - - - 1813	-	-	-	329	16	—
D ^o - - - 1813 - - - 1814	-	-	-	275	10	10
D ^o - - - 1814 - - - 1815	-	-	-	266	18	1
D ^o - - - 1815 - - - 1816	-	-	-	251	3	1
D ^o - - - 1816 - - - 1817	-	-	-	294	10	3
D ^o - - - 1817 - - - 1818	-	-	-	458	5	3
D ^o - - - 1818 - - - 1819	-	-	-	622	2	5
D ^o - - - 1819 - - - 1820	-	-	-	573	2	5

Extracted from the Poor Book of Saint Mary's, Blandford, this 20th day of March, 1821, by me
Thomas Bennett.

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of Poor's Rates collected in the Parish of Piddletown, Dorsetshire, from the year 1808 to the year 1820:

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.	Total Amount.
					£. s. d.	£. s. d.
From the year 1808 to the year 1809	-	-	-	21	26 13 5½	560 2 7½
— 1809 - d ^o - 1810	-	-	-	24	- D ^o -	640 3 —
— 1810 - d ^o - 1811	-	-	-	26	- D ^o -	693 9 11
— 1811 - d ^o - 1812	-	-	-	25	- D ^o -	666 16 5½
— 1812 - d ^o - 1813	-	-	-	33	- D ^o -	880 4 1½
— 1813 - d ^o - 1814	-	-	-	31	- D ^o -	826 17 2½
					£.	4,267 13 4
				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.	Total Amount.
					£. s. d.	£. s. d.
From the year 1814 to the year 1815	-	-	-	26	26 13 5½	693 9 11
— 1815 - d ^o - 1816	-	-	-	29	- D ^o -	773 10 3½
— 1816 - d ^o - 1817	-	-	-	25	- D ^o -	666 16 5½
— 1817 - d ^o - 1818	-	-	-	27	- D ^o -	720 3 4½
— 1818 - d ^o - 1819	-	-	-	28	- D ^o -	746 16 10
— 1819 - d ^o - 1820	-	-	-	33	- D ^o -	880 4 1½
					£.	4,481 1 —

John Curtis, Churchwarden.
James Shorto, } Overseers.
John Curtis, }

Mr.
William Plott.

(27 March.)

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of Poor's Rates, collected in the Parish of Milborne St. Andrew, Dorsetshire, from the Year 1808 to the Year 1820.

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	54	2	12	9	147 4 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
— 1809 d ^o 1810	-	-	-	70	-	D ^o	-	180 2 9
— 1810 d ^o 1811	-	-	-	80	-	D ^o	-	225 18 10
— 1811 d ^o 1812	-	-	-	74	-	D ^o	-	198 4 9
— 1812 d ^o 1813	-	-	-	100	-	D ^o	-	278 10 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
— 1813 d ^o 1814	-	-	-	66	-	D ^o	-	188 17 2
								£. 1,218 19 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1814 to the Year 1815	-	-	-	96	2	12	9	233 9 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1815 d ^o 1816	-	-	-	65	-	D ^o	-	193 12 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1816 d ^o 1817	-	-	-	112	-	D ^o	-	295 3 7
— 1817 d ^o 1818	-	-	-	118	-	D ^o	-	320 13 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1818 d ^o 1819	-	-	-	130	-	D ^o	-	341 6 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
— 1819 d ^o 1820	-	-	-	94	-	D ^o	-	257 9 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
								£. 1,641 15 0 $\frac{1}{4}$

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of Poor's Rate collected in the Parish of Milborne Styleham, Dorsetshire, from the Year 1808 to the Year 1820.

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	90	1	12	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	144 14 11
— 1809 d ^o 1810	-	-	-	100	-	D ^o	-	150 13 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1810 d ^o 1811	-	-	-	120	-	D ^o	-	192 18 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1811 d ^o 1812	-	-	-	90	-	D ^o	-	140 4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1812 d ^o 1813	-	-	-	120	-	D ^o	-	192 16 7
— 1813 d ^o 1814	-	-	-	120	-	D ^o	-	204 9 —
— 1814 d ^o 1815	-	-	-	82	-	D ^o	-	122 2 8
— 1815 d ^o 1816	-	-	-	80	-	D ^o	-	138 19 —
— 1816 d ^o 1817	-	-	-	110	-	D ^o	-	174 14 11
— 1817 d ^o 1818	-	-	-	125	-	D ^o	-	194 14 — $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1818 d ^o 1819	-	-	-	170	-	D ^o	-	262 18 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1819 d ^o 1820	-	-	-	135	-	D ^o	-	215 11 10
Total								£. 2,314 18 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

A correct STATEMENT of the Amount of the Poor Rates collected in the Parish of Winterbourne Houghton, in Dorset, from the year 1808 to the year 1820.

				Number of Rates.	At per Rate.			Total Amount.
					£.	s.	d.	£. s. d.
From the Year 1808 to the Year 1809	-	-	-	28	3	—	4	88 13 4
— 1809 d ^o 1810	-	-	-	35	3	3	4	110 16 8
— 1810 d ^o 1811	-	-	-	50	-	D ^o	-	158 6 8
— 1811 d ^o 1812	-	-	-	50	-	D ^o	-	158 6 8
— 1812 d ^o 1813	-	-	-	63	-	D ^o	-	199 10 —
— 1813 d ^o 1814	-	-	-	50	-	D ^o	-	158 6 8
— 1814 d ^o 1815	-	-	-	34	-	D ^o	-	107 13 4
— 1815 d ^o 1816	-	-	-	26	-	D ^o	-	82 6 8
— 1816 d ^o 1817	-	-	-	32	-	D ^o	-	101 6 8
— 1817 d ^o 1818	-	-	-	44	-	D ^o	-	139 6 8
— 1818 d ^o 1819	-	-	-	50	-	D ^o	-	158 6 8
— 1819 d ^o 1820	-	-	-	50	-	D ^o	-	158 6 8
Total								£. 1,621 7 4

March 23, 1821.

James Piper, Overseer.
John Sampson, Churchwarden.

Mr.
William Ilott.

A STATEMENT of the Poor's Rates collected in the Parish of Dowlesh, Dorset, from the year 1808 to the year 1820:

(27 March.)

				£.	s.	d.
From the year 1808 to the year 1809	-	-	-	250	10	10
— 1809 d° 1810	-	-	-	357	18	4
— 1810 d° 1811	-	-	-	322	2	6
— 1811 d° 1812	-	-	-	322	2	6
— 1812 d° 1813	-	-	-	447	7	11
— 1813 d° 1814	-	-	-	411	12	1
				£.	2,111	14 2

				£.	s.	d.
From the year 1814 to the year 1815	-	-	-	232	12	11
— 1815 d° 1816	-	-	-	318	10	11
— 1816 d° 1817	-	-	-	307	16	2
— 1817 d° 1818	-	-	-	423	—	—
— 1818 d° 1819	-	-	-	324	10	9
— 1819 d° 1820	-	-	-	457	6	3
				£.	2,063	17 —

Thomas Best, Overseer.

Ralph Pitt, Churchwarden.

Can you state to the Committee, what the results have been upon your farm, for the last six years, with respect to profit or loss?—No; merely on the produce sold, which appears upon my books, which are at the service of the Committee.

How do you know then, that you have made loss?—I feel it by reference to my capital, having occasion to pay my rent and expenses from capital I had previously possessed.

Do you value your capital from year to year?—No, I do not.

How often do you take stock?—It is very seldom the custom of farmers to take stock; if they were to take it now, they would give a very poor account.

How do you know your stock is of less value?—By the current price of stock of all descriptions.

Is your stock as great in quantity as it was six years ago?—Yes.

Greater?—No; about the same.

From what source have you paid the loss you have sustained?—From capital.

Do you mean capital distinct from your farm?—Yes, entirely so.

Have you sustained other losses, besides the diminution in the value of your stock?—I have sustained a loss in the diminution of the value of my stock, and the payment of my expenses from my capital. I could have retired a few years ago, with a considerable property, which I possessed from my forefathers, and other fortunate circumstances, such as marrying a decent fortune.

At what period do you think your losses commenced?—I think from the year 1814.

Down to the present time?—Yes.

Can you at all estimate what your aggregate loss has been, during that time, altogether?—I think in the year 1813, I could have retired with 10,000*l.* or from that to 12,000*l.* and now I should think not more than half the sum, at least not two thirds.

This loss has occurred on your own farm?—Yes; and in the diminution of the value of the stock.

During this latter period, have you been more expensive in your family than before?—No; I have been obliged to be more economical; that has dwelt a great deal upon my mind, to see my capital sinking, and my family increasing.

Since 1814, all produce has been at a high price, how do you account for having sustained losses when the produce was at a high price?—Since 1814, it has been only a short time at a high price, or a remunerating price, not during the whole time.

Mr.
William Flott.

(27 March.)

For how many years since 1814, has corn been at a remunerating price?—Not one.

Not in 1817?—Not on my farm; 1816 and 1817 were very wet years, and the seasons were extremely injurious to my crop.

The price of corn was then a remunerating price?—Yes; on upland arable farms, where they wanted much rain.

What do you think would be the remunerating price for corn on your farm?—My farm is expensive to manage, some part of it.

At what price should wheat be, to remunerate you in a proper way, for growing it?—I think 96 s. per quarter.

80 s. would not be a remunerating price?—No.

You could not afford to pay rent, if wheat was only eighty shillings?—From the calculations I have made, I think farmers in general, in the county of Dorset, could not.

Do you occupy any pasture land?—Yes; my farm consists of two thirds dry meadow and pasture.

Do you make butter and cheese for sale?—None; mine is an arable and sheep farm; the pasture is calculated for sheep; I have no dairy whatever.

Have you had an opportunity of ascertaining the state of the crop of wheat in Dorset, last year?—Yes.

What do you consider it to have been; abundant?—In some parts above an average, but in other parts deficient.

Taking the county in general, was it an average crop?—I think a full average crop.

Have you had an opportunity of ascertaining the state of the crops, in any of the adjoining counties?—No, I have not.

Was not it more than an average crop in Dorset?—I think it was a full average crop.

Do you belong to the meeting at Henderson's hotel?—No.

Do you know Mr. Webb Hall?—Yes; from seeing him this morning; and I saw him last year, but I have no connexion with him; I belong to an association in Dorsetshire.

The facts you have stated, have come under your own knowledge, and not from the statement of any other person?—Yes; they have come from my books, which are in my box where I am staying, if the Committee wish to see them.

Do you know what has been the increase of rent in the last thirty years?—I should think it has been double.

Has there been any great diminution in the price of labour, since 1814?—Very little; it remains nearly the same; it is now increasing from the circumstance of our being obliged to take roundsmen.

What is the general average of wages of labour?—I pay my shepherd 10 s. a week, besides finding him a cottage and a garden, fuel and potatoe ground, and extra wages in the lambing season; I pay my carter 9 s. per week, finding him a cottage and garden, fuel and potatoe ground; and other men as well, with extra wages in the harvest, &c.

Have rents fallen lately?—Yes, they have.

How much?—Probably one fifth; 20 per cent.

Mercurii, 28^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. William Ilott;

Again called in; and Examined.

YOU mentioned yesterday the capital that was necessary to manage your farm?—
Yes.

Do you wish to give in a more accurate statement?—Yes; I wish to give in the statement which I intended to have given in yesterday, with the other papers, but I forgot it.

Mr.
William Ilott.
(28 March.)

[The Witness produced and delivered in the following paper, which was read:]

1820.—CAPITAL required to manage 100 Acres of Land, under the four field system, as mentioned in these particulars:

						£.	s.	d.
Expenses as stated in the following particulars (exclusive of the Interest of Capital)						618	11	6
First cost of 5 Horses, say only £25. each Horse						125	—	—
D ^o	2 Waggon	s, at £20. each second-hand				40	—	—
D ^o	2 Cart	s, at £8. - - - - d ^o				16	—	—
D ^o	2 Plough	s and Tackle, £3. each				6	—	—
D ^o	2 Harrow	s, 25 s. each				2	10	—
D ^o	1 Pair of Drag	Harrow				5	5	—
D ^o	1 Roller					10	—	—
	Harness, Trace and Plough	d ^o				15	—	—
	Barn Implements					2	—	—
	Hurdles					6	—	—
	6 Sheep Cribs					1	—	—
	Prongs and Rakes					1	—	—
	Cart Ropes and Stable Utensils					5	—	—
						£.	853	6 6

Household and Brewing Utensils, not charged to the Account.
I have only charged Interest on £. 800.

William Ilott.

Is there any thing else you wish to state to the Committee?—Nothing further.

Mr. William Stickney; Called in; and Examined.

YOU reside in Yorkshire, and are a farmer?—Yes; in the east part of Yorkshire, in the district of Holderness.

Have you any statement to lay before the Committee?—I have a statement that was not drawn up for the purpose of this Committee; but a little while ago I received a letter from Mr. Webb Hall, inquiring if there was any person who had kept a regular account of his farm for any number of years, to be laid before the Committee; we called a meeting of our association, to make inquiries, and there was not any one who had kept such an account; and I wrote to him to that effect; and at the same time, I drew up a statement of profit and loss on farming concerns, at different marketable prices, which I have here; it is addressed to him only, and not prepared for this Committee, but for his information only; I should also mention that it is upon assumed data.

Mr.
William Stickney.
(28 March.)

[The Witness produced and delivered in the following paper:]

Mr.
William Stickney.

(28 March.)

A STATEMENT of the EXPENSE of cultivating 100 Acres of arable Land, under the following Heads, and according to the reduced Prices of January 27th, 1821.

		£.	s.	d.
Rent - - - -	Per acre, 30s. - - - -	150	—	—
	<i>s. d.</i>			
Rates and Taxes	Poor rates - - - -	2	6	
	County and church rate - - - -	1	—	
	Highway - - - - d° - - - -	1	—	
	— 4s. 6d. in Pound Rent - - - -	33	15	—
	Horse tax on four horses, at 17s. 6d. each - - - -	3	10	—
Wear and Tear -	Blacksmith, wheelwright, collarmaker, &c. - - - -	30	—	—
Servants - - -	Two yearly man servants at 18l. and 15l. - - - -	33	—	—
	Board of d° at 1s. 6d. per day each - - - -	54	15	—
	Wages to one woman servant 7l. board to d° at 1s. per day - - - -	25	5	—
Labour - - - -	Thrashing wheat, 75 quarters at 3s. - - - -	£. 11	5	—
	- D° - beans, 75 - d° - 1s. 9d. - - - -	6	11	3
	- D° - oats 175 - d° - 1s. 6d. - - - -	13	2	6
	25 Acres of wheat cutting at 12s. - - - -	15	—	—
	25 d° of beans - - - - 9s. - - - -	11	5	—
	25 d° of oats - - - - - - - - - -	10	—	—
		67	3	9
Team - - - -	To four horses, supposed to have cost 20l. each, and to last ten years - - - -			
	To annual decay of each - - - - - - - - - -	£. 2	—	—
	To summer keep of each - - - - - - - - - -	5	10	—
	To winter keep of each - - - - - - - - - -	5	10	—
	To oats, one peck per day each, being 11 qrs. 3 bush. at 18s. 5d. - - - -	10	9	6
		£. 23	9	6
	And four of them - - - - - - - - - -	93	18	—
Seed - - - -	To 62 bushels of wheat, at 6s. 10d. per bushel - - - -	21	3	8
	To 25 quarters of oats, at 18s. 5d. per quarter - - - -	23	5	—
	To 75 bushels of beans, at 4s. per bushel - - - -	15	—	—
Manure - - - -	To 50 chaldrons of lime, at 13s. per chaldron - - - -	32	10	—
	To interest of capital 800l. at 5l. per cent per annum - - - -	40	—	—
	Amount of the expense of cultivating 100 acres - - - -	* 623	5	5
	Or per acre per annum - - - - - - - - - -	6	4	7½
	Amount of the expense of 100 acres, as above - - - -	623	5	5
	Amount of produce - - - - - - - - - -	486	2	11
	Loss to the Farmer per annum on 100 acres - - - -	137	2	6
	Or, per acre per annum - - - - - - - - - -	1	7	5

PRODUCE of 100 acres of arable Land, supposing it under a system of three crops and a fallow, and at the present Prices of Grain.

The Prices are taken at the average of the week ending January 27, 1821, for the Maritime Districts as reported in the Farmers Journal for February 5, 1821.

	£.	s.	d.
25 Acres of Fallow.			
25 d° of Wheat at 3 qrs. per acre - - 75 qrs. at 54s. 8d. per qr. - - - -	205	—	—
25 d° of Beans - 3 - d° - - - 75 qrs. at 32s. - - d° - - - -	120	—	—
25 d° of Oats - - 7 - d° - - - 175 qrs. at 18s. 5d. - d° - - - -	161	2	11
Amount of 100 acres at present prices - - - - - - - - - -	486	2	11
Or, per acre per annum - - - - - - - - - -	4	17	2½

* When grain is at importing prices, the expenses, in addition for seed and horses, in the cultivation of 100 acres, will be 35l. 1s. which will make the amount for 100 acres 658l. 6s. 5d. or, per acre, 6l. 11s. 8d.

Mr.
William Stickney.

Produce of 100 acres at the Prices at which Grain may be imported.

25 Acres of fallow.		£.	s.	d.
25 d° of wheat at 3 qrs. per acre - - 75 qrs. at 80s. per qr. - - - -		300	—	—
25 d° of beans - 3 - d° - - - 75 qrs. at 53s. d° - - - -		198	15	—
25 d° of oats - - 7 - d° - - - 175 qrs. at 27s. d° - - - -		236	5	—
Produce of 100 acres at importing prices - - - -		735	—	—
Or, per acre per annum - - - -		7	7	—
Expense of cultivating one acre, as per preceding page - - - -		* 6	4	7½
Profit to the farmer per acre, at importing prices - - - -		1	2	4½

(28 March.)

* See Note at the bottom of the preceding page, where 6l. 11s. 8d. is the expense per acre at importing prices, instead of 6l. 4s. 7½d. as above; in this case the profit to the farmer will be 15s. 4d. instead of 1l. 2s. 4½d. as above; and being no unreasonable profit, does away the necessity of the observation at the commencement of the following paragraph. This error was discovered after the above statement was made.

It may seem here, that 1l. 2s. 4½d. is an extravagant profit for the farmer to receive; but it should be noted and remembered, that 80s. per quarter for wheat, and a full average crop, scarce ever occur. It is more than probable, that this price is occasioned by a generally deficient crop; and it is more likely that the cultivator will have to calculate at two quarters per acre, than at three; and of other grain in a like proportion. And also, under these circumstances, by the operation of the present corn law, is the British farmer exposed to the greatest suffering and difficulty. No sooner is it generally known, that the crop has been deficient, but that grain immediately advances to importing prices; the markets are then soon glutted with foreign produce, and notwithstanding the British farmer's deficient crop, the prices are lowered to perhaps 60s. or less for wheat, and other grain in proportion.

The following is a STATEMENT of the expense of cultivation, and value of the produce of one acre of a turnip soil, and one acre of a strong soil, each in a nine years course. I suppose the cultivation to be performed by hire; and state each article at such a price as a person may afford to perform them at, compensating wear and tear, and attendance:—

Turnip Soil in a nine years course.

Years.			£. s. d.
1 - -	Turnips - - -	To 6 plough, at 8 s. - - 48 s.; harrowing, quitching and covering the seed, 15 s. - - -	3 3 —
		To sowing and rolling, 2 s. 6 d.; seed, 4 s.; griping, 2 s.; preparing and laying on the manure, 10 loads, each 3 s. - - 30 s.; twice hoeing, 15 s. - - -	2 13 6
		Amount of expense for turnips - - -	5 16 6
2 - -	Barley - - -	To 2 ploughings and harrowings, 21 s.; sowing and rolling, 2 s. 6 d.; seed, 3 bushels, at 3 s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. each - - 9 s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; griping, 1 s. 6 d.; weeding, 2 s.; reaping, 9 s. - - -	2 5 5 $\frac{1}{4}$
		To carrying, stacking and thatching, 10 s.; thrashing, 7 s.; delivery, 6 s. - - -	1 3 —
		Amount of expense for barley - - -	3 8 5 $\frac{1}{4}$
3 - -	Red Clover - -	Seed, 14 s.; mowing 2 crops, 6 s.; making, 6 s.; carrying, stacking and thatching, 12 s. -	1 18 —
		Amount of expense for clover - - -	1 18 —
4 - -	Wheat - - -	To 1 ploughing, 8 s.; harrowing, 3 s.; sowing and griping, 2 s. 6 d.; seed, 3 bushels at 6 s. 10 d. - - 20 s. 6 d. - - -	1 14 —
		To weeding, 2 s. 6 d.; reaping, 12 s.; carrying, stacking and thatching, 10 s.; thrashing, 9 s.; delivering, 4 s. 6 d. - - -	1 18 —
		Amount of expense for wheat - - -	3 12 —

Mr.

William Stickney.

(28 March.)

Recapitulation of Expense of cultivating a Turnip Soil for nine years, exclusive of rent, repairs of buildings, taxes, &c.

Years.		£.	s.	d.
1	Turnips	5	16	6
2	Barley	3	8	5½
3	Red clover	1	18	—
4	Wheat	3	12	—
5	Turnips repeated	5	16	6
6	Barley repeated	3	8	5½
7 & 8	White clover and seeds for two years lay, seed, griping, &c.	1	10	—
9	Wheat as before	3	11	9
Amount of expense of cultivating one acre of a turnip soil in nine years course, exclusive of rent, repairs, taxes, &c. &c.		£.	29	1 7½

Strong Soil in a nine years course :

Years.		£.	s.	d.
1	Fallow.	—	—	—
2	Wheat	To two ploughings, at 9s. each, 18s.; four ditto at 8s. - - 32s.	2	10 —
		To harrowing, 8s.; sowing, 6d.; griping sundry times, 4s.; weeding, 2s. 6d. - - -	—	15 —
		To seed, 2½ bushels, at 6s. 10d. - - 17s. 1d.; reaping, 12s.; carrying, stacking and thatching, 10s. - - -	1	19 1
		To thrashing, 9s.; delivering, 4s. 6d.; carting and preparing eight loads of manure, at 3s. each, 24s. - - -	1	17 6
		Amount of expense for wheat - £.	7	1 7
3	Clover	To white clover and seeds for grazing, expense of seed, griping, &c. being sown upon the growing wheat, 30s.; amount of expense for clover - - -	1	10 —
4	Oats	To one ploughing, 9s.; winter griping, 2s.; seed, eight bushels, 18s. 5d.; sowing and harrowing, 4s. 6d.; griping again, 1s.; weeding, 2s.; reaping 10s. - - -	2	6 11
		To carrying and stacking, 10s.; thrashing, 9s.; delivering, 7s. - - -	1	6 —
		Amount of expense for oats - £.	3	12 11
5 and 6		Fallow and wheat repeated, manure deducted -	5	17 6
		To three chaldron of lime, per acre, at 17s. per chaldron, with the carting - - -	2	11 —
		Amount of expense for wheat limed - £.	8	8 6
7	Red Clover	As per turnip soil, for mowing - - -	1	18 —
8	Oats	As before - - -	3	12 11
9	Beans	To one ploughing, 9s.; griping, 2s.; seed, three bushels, 12s.; drilling, 2s.; harrowing, 4s. -	1	9 —
		To griping again, 1s.; weeding and horsehoeing, 5s.; reaping, 10s.; carrying, stacking and thatching, 10s.; thrashing and delivering, 12s. - - -	1	18 —
		Amount of expense for beans - £.	3	7 —

Recapitulation of expense in cultivating a Strong Soil:

Years.		£.	s.	d.
1 & 2	Wheat of the fallow	7	1	7
3	Clover, to graze	1	10	—
4	Oats	3	12	11
5 & 6	Wheat repeated after the fallow with lime	8	8	6
7	Red clover, for hay	1	18	—
8	Oats, as before	3	12	11
9	Beans	3	7	—
Amount of the expense of cultivating one acre of a strong soil on a nine years course, exclusive of rent, repairs, taxes, &c. &c. -		£.	29	10 11

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Produce at the present prices from a Turnip Soil, in a nine years course :

Years.		£.	s.	d.
1 - - -	Turnips, allowing for the hazard of crops	4	—	—
2 - - -	Barley, 4 quarters at 25 s. 2 d. per q ^r	5	—	8
3 - - -	Clover, 3 tons - at 42 s. per ton	6	6	—
4 - - -	Wheat, 3 quarters at 54 s. 8 d. per q ^r	8	4	—
5 - - -	Turnips, as before	4	—	—
6 - - -	Barley, as before	5	—	8
7 & 8 -	Seeds, grazed two years at four sheep per acre each year, at 12 s. each sheep per year	4	16	—
9 - - -	Wheat, as before	8	4	—
Amount of produce per acre on a turnip soil, in nine years		£.	45	11 4

Produce from one acre of a Strong Soil, in nine years :

Years.		£.	s.	d.
1 - - -	Fallow.	—	—	—
2 - - -	Wheat, 3 quarters at 54 s. 8 d. per q ^r	8	4	—
3 - - -	Clover and seeds, to graze one year, five sheep at 12 s. each	3	—	—
4 - - -	Oats, 7 quarters, at 18 s. 5 d. per q ^r	6	8	11
5 - - -	Fallow.	—	—	—
6 - - -	Wheat, as before	8	4	—
7 - - -	Clover twice mown, 3 tons at 42 s. per ton	6	6	—
8 - - -	Oats, as before	6	8	11
9 - - -	Beans, 3 quarters at 32 s. per q ^r	4	16	—
Amount of one acre from a strong soil, in nine years		£.	43	7 10

A further STATEMENT of Expense, and apportionment of the Produce :

Turnip Soil:		£.	s.	d.
Expense of nine years cultivation, as per preceding page	- - -	29	1	7½
To parish rates, nine years at 4 s. 6 d. in the pound, rent 30 s. per acre per annum	- - -	3	—	9
To tenant's profits, interest of capital, attendance, &c. at 15 s. per acre per annum	- - -	6	15	—
		38	17	4½
Amount of produce on one acre of turnip soil, in nine years, as above	-	45	11	4
Surplus for landlord in nine years	- - -	6	13	11½
Or, per acre per annum	- - -	—	14	10½

Further Expense, &c. on a Strong Soil:

	£.	s.	d.
Expense of nine years cultivation, as per preceding page	29	10	11
To parish rates, nine years at 4 s. 6 d. in the pound, rent 30 s. per acre per annum	3	—	9
To tenant's profits, interest of capital, attendance, &c. at 15 s. per acre per annum	6	15	—
	39	6	8
Amount of produce from one acre of strong soil, in nine years, as above	43	7	10
Surplus for landlord in nine years	4	1	2
Or, per acre per annum	—	9	—½

Suppose the tenant (as is really the case) to be charged with 30 s. per acre rent; for I consider that land capable of averaging the produce stated, is generally rented as high as 30 s. per acre; the account will then stand thus:

	£.	s.	d.
To expense as before, on a turnip soil	29	1	7½
To parish rates as before	3	—	9
To rent for nine years at 30 s. per acre per annum	13	10	—
	45	12	4½
Amount of produce on a turnip soil in nine years	45	11	4
Loss to the tenant, after giving in the interest of capital, attendance, &c. for nine years	—	1	—½
Or, per acre per annum	—	—	1¼

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Strong Soil:

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
To expenses as before, for nine years - - - -	29	10	11				
To parish rates for nine years, as before - - -	3	—	9				
To rent for nine years, at 30s. per annum - - -	13	10	—		46	1	8
Amount of produce on a strong soil, in nine years, as per preceding page -					43	7	10
Loss to the tenant in nine years - - - - -					2	13	10
Or, per acre per annum - - - - -					—	5	11½

N. B.—In the nine years course, where the work is supposed to be performed by hire, (and which many of us think, if it was practicable at the prices stated, would be the cheapest method,) no allowance is made for repairs of fences, buildings, or assessed taxes; indeed none of the calculations include any of these particulars, duty on draught horses excepted.

It is evident from the foregoing statements, that farming is a most ruinous business, and that its present state calls loudly for some speedy remedy, otherwise it will soon become an incurable national evil. In the first statement, page 152, it appears that the farmer is minus in the cultivation of 100 acres of arable land; and at the present prices 137*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; or per acre per annum, 1*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*; except that in this instance, he is allowed 5 per cent per annum for capital employed. In calculating the produce, I believe the quantities per acre are as much as a fair average of years will justify, except that I am rather doubtful whether we may not allow 2 bushels per acre for the wheat crops on a strong soil, more than on a turnip soil, which in a nine years course, occurs twice; and also, whether 3¼ quarters may not be taken as the average of a bean crop, instead of 3 quarters, the quantity calculated; if this is allowed, it will be 4 bushels of wheat and 4 bushels of beans on a strong soil, in addition to the produce in nine years, which I believe will make the result very near the same as from a turnip soil.

In the cultivation of a turnip soil under a nine years course, and when the work is performed by hire, the loss to the farmer from one acre in nine years, is £. 0. 1. 0½.

Or, per acre per annum - - - - 0. 0. 1¼.

Ditto on a strong soil, in a nine years course, the farmer's loss on one

acre in nine years, is - - - - 2. 13. 10.

Or, per acre per annum - - - - 0. 5. 11¾.

In these two latter cases, there is no allowance for interest of capital, attendance, &c. or for repairs of fences, buildings, and assessed taxes.

I am very apprehensive that our government are not sufficiently apprized of the depressed state of the agricultural interest. Thousands of farmers whose situations have not yet come to light, are ruined in their circumstances, beyond remedy; and if something is not done early in the Session of Parliament, to increase the value of farming produce, thousands more will be in the same situation. If, according to custom, Parliament begin with the appointment of Committees to examine into the state of the agricultural interest, without doing something as an immediate relief to the farmer, the produce of last year will soon get out of his hands (particularly the needy,) and then another year will pass away before he can be relieved; and I do believe, that if the produce of last harvest gets out of the hands of the farmers, at the present prices, that a large proportion of the present race of tenantry, will be driven from their situations, and ruined past recovery, in their circumstances. Desperate cases require desperate remedies; I can see no *immediate remedy* for our case, which is, indeed, desperate, but for the government to immediately buy up a considerable part of the surplus of grain, at present before the market, and store it until the consumption calls for it at better prices; or what would be still better, send it to our colonies or elsewhere; and if they lose a considerable per centage by it, it is a debt which the nation owes, through the medium of government, to the agricultural interest, on account of their permitting so large a quantity of foreign grain to be imported, at a time when it was not wanted. Should the government adopt some plan of this sort, and I believe it may be accomplished with much less difficulty and loss than from a superficial view of the subject, we are aware of; the market will then immediately advance to, I hope, a remunerating price to the farmer; and then Parliament may take time to consider the subject of the petitions of the cultivators of the soil; which, I trust, if adopted, will be found to be one of the most permanent and beneficial plans for the promotion of the best interests of the nation, that ever was devised.

The

The foregoing statements are not worse than many of us find realized in our practice; and I find that my pocket nearly corresponds with it; and I am free to acknowledge, that if I had not had other resources beyond my farm, I must have left it before this time; many will say, if farming is a losing concern, why do not you leave it? I answer, we are many of us in situations where we have expended considerable capitals, and we are struggling on in hope of better times; we hope that every succeeding year will bring some relief. To leave at present, we know that our stock and crop will not produce much more than one half of what it would have done in the year 1813; since which time, we have been mostly declining in our circumstances. Immediately after the harvest of 1813, I estimated my stock and crop at about 10,000 *l.*; a similar stock and crop at the present prices, supposing the same in quantity and quality, would not exceed 6,000 *l.*; and some part of the time, 1816 for instance, would not have exceeded 5,000 *l.*; the depression upon the cultivators of the soil, is now so great, that it is altogether out of the power of landlords *alone* to relieve their tenants, for they would not be remunerated at the present prices, if the landlord was to forego one half of his rent; neither do I think that reduction of rent is a desirable system to adopt, further than it is fair and just that the landlord should share with his tenant, the difficulties he is experiencing, until the government adopt some measure of more permanent and effectual relief. This is my firm opinion, that it is impossible for the cultivators of the soil and landowners, to support the revenue of the country, under a system of low prices; for the public debt, principal and interest, must be virtually increased in proportion as the value of land and its produce is diminished.

With respect to the existing corn law, the more I contemplate the more I consider it a mere phantom, and quite incompetent to afford any effectual relief to British agriculture. It having been demonstrated to the Committees of the Lords and Commons, that an average of 80 *s.* per quarter for wheat was requisite to remunerate the British grower. It was, no doubt, the intention of the legislature to grant protection to that extent, though in its operation it will have no such effect. Perhaps the protection really granted, cannot be estimated at more than 60 *s.* per quarter for wheat. As the present law opens the British market to foreign grain for at least six weeks when the prices attain 80 *s.* per quarter for wheat, 27 *s.* ditto for oats, 53 *s.* ditto for beans, and 40 *s.* ditto for barley; at the opening of the ports, there is generally such an influx of foreign grain, that wheat will speedily fall from 20 *s.* to 30 *s.* per quarter, and other grain in proportion; and the quantity of foreign sold and deposited in our warehouses during that period keeps it down for many months to come. I understand, there is at present a large quantity of foreign corn in the London and other granaries, and should our market attain about 75 *s.* for wheat, that quantity would speedily be doubled, in readiness, to take advantage of the first opening of the market. There the British grower is deprived of the highest prices, except in very limited quantities; foreign grain being previously deposited in our warehouses to a large extent, would immediately come into the market, which in a few days would be much lowered. The British grower having his in the straw would not be able, without considerable time, to get his ready for the market, by which means he would be deprived of the highest prices.

It is therefore, I think, sufficiently evident, that nothing but a total prohibition, or a duty equivalent thereto (except at such high prices as to preserve this country from suffering), can re-establish that confidence with the cultivators of the soil which is the chief stimulus to their industry, and thereby rescue this island from a humiliating dependence upon others for what it can so abundantly produce itself, and also restore the present impoverished and dispirited tenantry to that competence and comfort which is the fair reward of their honest industry.

What I am now about to observe, will perhaps only show how unable I am to give an opinion on the subject, as it may be connected with other matter or subjects which I am not able to appreciate. But I have thought if parliament should not think fit to comply with the substance of the petitions of the cultivators of the soil; viz. to fix a high protecting duty upon the import of all articles similar to those produced by our own soil, the then only effectual method will be, to pass an act for the entire prohibition of foreign grain, and in order to prevent the evil consequences of a failure of crops in this country, or very extravagant prices, the government might reserve to themselves the power in council of being themselves, through the medium of proper agents, (importers, or grant licence to the merchants for that purpose,) to such an extent as the nation might really want, and stop when that was obtained. For the introduction or prohibition of foreign grain into this nation, appears to me

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a subject of so much importance, that I think the key of it should be kept in the hands of those who are interested in the welfare of the nation generally, and not leave the door open to the merchant for *any* period, to inundate the country with such a quantity as will operate to the destruction of British agriculture.

A STATEMENT of the expense of cultivation and value of the produce of one acre of a turnip soil and one acre of a strong soil in a nine years course. The expense calculated according to the usual practice of farming; viz. by an establishment of servants, horses, &c. &c. and the produce at importing prices. In calculating the expenses of cultivating arable land, with an establishment according to the usual practice, there are certain expenses which apply every year, and equally to every system of cultivation; and there are others which apply differently to different systems of cropping:—

GENERAL EXPENSES:

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, as per page 152	150	—	—			
Parish rates, d°	33	15	—			
Duty on draught horses, d°	3	10	—			
Wear and tear, d°	30	—	—			
Servants, including wages, board, &c. d°	113	—	—			
Horses, d°	93	18	—			
Interest of capital, d°	40	—	—			
Amount of 100 acres	464	3	—			
Or, per acre per annum	4	12	10			
Amount for nine years				41	15	6

I consider that two hired men servants are necessary for every 100 acres, and that they are constantly occupied with the horses; and that there are certain other articles of labour which must be performed by other persons, such as reaping, thrashing, griping, &c. and such apply differently to different systems of cropping, and are as follows:

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
For turnip seed 4s.; griping 2s.; hoeing 15s.	1	1	—			
Barley seed, 3 bushels at 5s. - 15s.; griping 1s. 6d.; weeding 2s.; reaping 9s.; thrashing 7s.	1	14	6			
Clover seed 14s.; mowing and making into hay 12s.	1	6	—			
Wheat-griping 2s.; seed, 3 bushels at 10s. - 30s.; weeding 2s. 6d.; reaping 12s.; thrashing 9s.	2	15	6			
Turnips again	1	1	—			
Barley d°	1	14	6			
Clover for two years lay, seed, griping, &c.	1	10	—			
Wheat repeated	2	15	6			
				55	13	6

Produce on a Turnip Soil at importing Prices:

Years.		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1	Turnips	4	—	—			
2	Barley, 4 qrs at 40s.	8	—	—			
3	Clover, 3 tons at 42s.	6	6	—			
4	Wheat, 3 qrs. at 80s.	12	—	—			
5	Turnips repeated	4	—	—			
6	Barley d°	8	—	—			
7 and 8	Seeds grazed two years, at 4 sheep each year, at 12s. per sheep per annum	4	16	—			
9	Wheat as before	12	—	—			
	Amount of produce from one acre of turnip soil in nine years				59	2	—
	Profit to the farmer in nine years				3	8	6
	Or, per acre per annum				—	7	7 $\frac{1}{4}$

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Produce on a Strong Soil at importing prices :

Years.		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1	- - - Fallow.						
2	- - - Wheat, 3 qrs. at 80s. -	12	—	—			
3	- - - Seeds to graze one year 5 sheep at 12s. each	3	—	—			
4	- - - Oats, 7 qrs. at 27s. -	9	9	—			
5	- - - Fallow.						
6	- - - Wheat, as before	12	—	—			
7	- - - Clover, two crops, 3 tons at 42s.	6	6	—			
8	- - - Oats, as before -	9	9	—			
9	- - - Beans, 3½ qrs. at 53s.	9	3	6			
Amount of produce from one acre of strong soil in nine years					61	7	6
Amount of Expenses in cultivating one acre of Strong Soil in nine years :							
General expense, as per preceding page -		41	15	6			
Years.							
1 and 2	Wheat on fallow, griping sundry times 4s.; weeding 2s. 6d.; seed 2½ bushels at 10s. - - - 25s.; reaping 12s.; thrashing 9s. -	2	12	6			
3	- - - Clover to graze, seeds, griping, &c. -	1	10	—			
4	- - - Oats, griping 2s.; seed, 8 bushels, 27s.; griping, again 1s.; weeding 2s.; reaping 10s. -	2	2	—			
5 and 6	Wheat on fallow, as before, 52s. 6d. to 3 chaldrons of lime to d ^o 39s. -	4	11	6			
7	- - - Clover, as per preceding page, on turnip soil -	1	6	—			
8	- - - Oats, as before -	2	2	—			
9	- - - Beans, griping 2s.; seed, 3 bushels at 6s. 7½d. 19s. 10½d.; griping again 1s.; weeding and horse-hoeing 5s.; reaping 10s.; thrashing 6s. 1¾d. -	2	4	—			
Amount of expenses in cultivating one acre of strong soil nine years					58	3	6
Profit to the farmers in nine years, at importing prices					3	4	—
Or, per acre per annum					—	7	1¼

The following STATEMENT will show the loss to the cultivator at present prices ; the items are the same as the foregoing, only the Produce and the Seed are calculated at present prices :

Turnip Soil :		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
General expense, as per preceding page		41	15	6			
Particular expenses on each crop, calculated at present prices		12	7	10½			
Amount of expense on turnip soil in nine years					54	3	4½
Amount of produce from turnip soil in nine years at present prices, as per page 155					45	11	4
Loss to the cultivator on a turnip soil in nine years					8	12	—½
Or, per acre per annum					—	19	1¼

Strong Soil :		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
General expenses, as per preceding page		41	15	6			
Particular expenses on each crop, calculated at present prices		14	7	1½			
Amount of expense on a strong soil in nine years					56	2	7½
Amount of produce from a strong soil in nine years, as per page 155					43	7	10
Loss to the cultivator on a strong soil, in a nine years course					12	14	9½
Or, per acre per annum					1	8	3½

It may be observed, that there is a material difference to the cultivator in the profits between the statement in note page 153, and above, even when both are calculated at maximum prices ; the profit in page 153, being 15s. 4d. per acre, and above, 7s. 1¼d. I know not how to account for the difference, otherwise than that three crops and a fallow, appear to be a more profitable system to the cultivator than the nine years course ; and with a proper variation, I do not know but it may be as good for the landlord. It may be varied somewhat in this way :

Fallow.	Fallow.	Fallow.	Fallow.	Fallow.
Wheat.	Wheat.	Oats.	Wheat.	Rape for Seed.
Oats.	Beans.	Wheat.	Clover.	Wheat.
Beans.	Oats.	Beans.	Wheat.	Beans.

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I have thus given different views of the produce and expenses of cultivating arable land, and the results of the different modes of cultivation when calculated, at the same prices of grain, have generally come out more alike than I expected they would have done; and all show that even at the highest prices, there is no unreasonable profit to the cultivator, and that at the present prices, his capital is rapidly declining.

The mode of stating the expenses of cultivating 100 acres of arable land, as stated in the 152d page, was suggested some years since, by the Board of Agriculture, all the rest are the result of my own experience and observation.

My political opinion on the subject before us, is comprised in a short paper, which I sent for insertion, in *The Farmer's Journal* of January 1820, with the signature of Holderness, and is as follows:

“ON IMPROVING THE TIMES.”

“As a Farmer, I want to be enabled to pay an additional rent to my landlord. I want to be enabled to increase the wages of my servants and labourers, and to double their number. I want to be enabled to pay a higher price for every article of my clothing, and to the artizans for all my agricultural machinery and implements, and to the tradespeople and merchants for every article which I use or consume; and in this my desire, I consider myself a true patriot: Because, by these means, the revenue will or may be so increased, so that at least ten millions of the national debt may be paid off annually, without being oppressive to the subject; and because, I believe, the welfare of the nation, generally, nay, I believe, its salvation, in a political sense, consists in the accomplishment of these objects, and these objects, I believe, are only to be obtained, and would be obtained, by the Legislature granting the request of the agriculturists; viz. that all articles of a similar production to those of our own soil, may be prohibited from being imported from other countries, without a duty upon them, adequate to the expense of their production in this country. Home and its dependencies afford an immense market at our command. So much of the foreign market as may be induced to come to us, I would gratefully supply, and all the rest I would sacrifice, rather than compromise the better interests of our country.”

Is any thing charged in that account for your housekeeping?—No, nothing.

The Committee wish to have your opinion of the last crop of 1820, whether it was an average crop, or more or less?—The crop of wheat, in 1820, in our district, was rather beneath an average crop.

Was it much beneath?—Not much; it was considerably deficient as to quality, but not as to quantity.

It was considerably deficient in the quantity of food it would produce?—Yes; the preceding year was the most abundant year I ever remember.

How was it as to oats?—A very fair crop; a full average crop.

Not more than an average?—I should think something more than an average.

What is the state of the labourers in your part of the country?—The labourers complain very much of the want of work, although in our district, we keep them more employed than in many others.

Do you give them the same wages as usual?—Not quite.

State the usual wages?—The usual wages, when they provide themselves with every thing, is, from Michaelmas to Midsummer, 2 s. 6 d. per day, 15 s. a week; from Midsummer to Michaelmas, 18 s. per week; and during the time of harvest, they generally have the privilege of working by the piece, that is, taking the cutting of the corn, at so much per acre.

What are the wages now?—Fifteen shillings a week; there are some reduced as low as 12 s.; but we find if we do not pay them pretty good wages, we have to pay it them out of the rates.

Do you think your rates are lower, in consequence of your good wages?—Yes.

What did you pay in poor rates last year?—Half-a-crown in the pound, upon the net rent.

What are those rates, compared with the rates, four years ago?—I can remember them sixpence in the pound.

How long ago is that?—Twenty years ago.

How high were they four years ago?—Pretty much the same as now.

How was labour then?—Pretty much the same; there is a little reduction; some of the villages have got the labourers as low as 12 s. a week.

Do you find task labour increase?—Not much.

In

In those places where the wages are 12 s. a week, are the poor rates higher?—Much higher.

Are labourers better off than they were four years ago?—There is only a reduction in corn; they have the same to pay for their clothes and other things.

Can you state the general situation of the farmers in your part of the country?—I believe the general situation of the farmers is, that their capital is very much reducing.

Owing to what circumstance?—The depreciation in the value of farming produce.

Owing to the low price they get?—Yes.

Do you see a material alteration in the way of cultivating the land in Yorkshire?—That is not very striking; we find, that if we do not cultivate to the best advantage, the quantity and value of the produce decreases; but there certainly is some deterioration in the cultivation.

How are the rents paid in Yorkshire?—I believe there are some farmers considerably in arrear.

In the East Riding?—Yes.

What part of the East Riding?—The district of Holderness.

In the present way of farming, would you recommend any young man to take a farm in Yorkshire, at the rent paid now?—I believe what farmers are paying now, as rent, is principally a deduction from their capital.

Has there been any fall of rents in your part of the country of late years?—They have fallen in some instances, I think, from 10 to 25 per cent; but it is not general.

Rents fixed at what period?—A little while before the decline of agricultural produce, about the year 1812; there are very few leases granted in our district.

What proportion do the present rents bear to the rents of twenty or thirty years ago?—I am afraid I am not able to speak to that correctly; not much difference perhaps.

How long have you been a farmer?—I have been brought up a farmer, and have lived, where I now reside, all my life.

Do you not recollect what your rent was 25 years ago?—About what it is now; it has been advanced since then, and again reduced.

What warning is it usual to give to tenants at will?—Six months.

Do you not think, that a labourer must be better off with his present wages and the present low price of corn, seeing that corn must form the principal part of his expenditure, than he was some years ago?—The labourer complains a great deal more than he did when corn was at a higher rate; he has more parish relief now; I think it is probable, that when wages were higher he got into rather a more extravagant mode of living, and finds some difficulty in reducing it; but I believe they are not better off now than they were when the produce was higher.

Has any alteration in their mode of living taken place?—Perhaps a little.

They consume less animal food?—Yes; they cannot procure it.

Is your farm exclusively arable?—No; a mixture of arable and grazing.

What is the comparative price of beasts now as compared with twenty years ago?—I suppose our sheep that we sell now for about 40 s. a-head, we could have sold 12 or 13 years ago for between 50 s. and 60 s.

What would have been the price, twenty years ago or thereabout?—I cannot say I am able to recollect what the prices were then.

Or with respect to cattle?—No, not clearly.

Or wool?—Wool is higher now than it was then.

In what proportion?—I should think it is 10 s. a todd higher, at 28 lbs. to the todd.

Long wool?—Yes; we have no short wool.

What do you estimate your loss at upon your farm?—According to the statement delivered in, it appears that the loss on arable land is 1 l. 7 s. 5 d. per annum.

What is the number of acres of your farm?—850 acres; 500 arable and the rest in grazing.

When you say the loss is 1 l. 7 s. 5 d. you mean upon the arable land?—Yes, upon the arable land only, the pasture land is not the same expense in cultivating.

What interest do you allow for capital?—Five per cent for capital.

Has live stock fallen in the same proportion as corn?—Not quite so much.

What is the difference for the last four or five years?—Corn has been such a very fluctuating article, it is difficult to fix upon an average for any number of years.

What is the present proportion of depression?—I think cattle may have fallen

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perhaps as much as a fourth or a fifth in value to what we have known them. I can scarcely fix any data as to corn, it has been so fluctuating, I cannot fix the comparison.

Is it a third?—It is a difficult matter to answer that question.

The Committee wish to know the reason that occurs to you, why cattle have diminished less in value than corn?—I am not able to account for the reason; the labour is much greater certainly upon the production of corn than it is upon cattle, beyond all comparison; the expense of cultivating arable land remains much the same as it has ever done.

Can you state any other cause than the fall of the price of corn?—No other.

Do you look for any remedy to it?—I apprehend that if the government should fix a sufficiently protecting duty upon the import of foreign corn, that would improve the condition of the farmer, and make the prices higher and steadier. The great fluctuation in the price is one very great disadvantage to the farmer, he can make no calculation of what he can take a farm at, or what rent he can afford to give.

Is it the general opinion in your neighbourhood, that that might be a remedy?—Yes, it is.

What would you state that duty to be?—I should suppose not at all less than 40s. per quarter would be sufficient as a duty upon wheat.

How do you calculate that 40s.?—It is necessary to make some comparison what it can be obtained at on the Continent; I have had some little information from merchants who have imported corn, and making the comparison between the two, I have thought not less than 40s. would be a security.

What price do you think foreign corn could be sold at, including all the expenses?—I have an account of the prices of foreign corn abroad; at Antwerp, wheat may be obtained from 34s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; oats 11s. 3d. to 12s. 3d.; at Archangel, wheat from 21s. to 22s.; from 9s. to 9s. 6d. for oats; at Koningsberg, from 34s. to 44s. for wheat; oats from 12s. to 13s.; at Memel, wheat 31s. 5d. to 32s. 6d.; oats from 12s. to 12s. 4d.; at Riga, wheat 22s. 6d. to 30s.; oats 11s. 6d. to 11s. 8d.; at Liebau, from 30s. to 32s. for wheat, and oats 11s. 4d.

Then there is the freight to be added to that?—Yes; but that would be very trifling from those near places.

Can you state it?—No.

Is there a difference besides in the measure?—I understand that was calculated at the Winchester bushel.

Can you speak as to the state of agriculture in other parts of Yorkshire, besides the East Riding?—Not correctly; but I find there are the same complaints from other parts of Yorkshire; I believe upon the wolds and the districts where the land is inferior, that the occupier is suffering more than with us, our land is much more productive than theirs in corn and cattle.

Is the present corn law of any use whatever to the farmer?—It is altogether incompetent to protect the farmer; it may be of some use, for if there was no corn law we could not pay our way at any rate.

Which would you prefer, the continuance of the present corn law or a fixed duty of 20s. per quarter on the importation of wheat?—Twenty shillings per quarter would be altogether incompetent; it is difficult to say which would be the best.

Or which the worst?—Or which the worst.

Neither of them would be good for any thing?—No.

Would it not be desirable to impose a duty on the importation of corn from Ireland?—I wish to consider the Irish as our brethren, and I should be very unwilling to saddle them with any burthens to ease ourselves.

You allow it would be a service to the English farmer?—Yes, it might; but I should be disposed to sacrifice a little to avoid that.

Would it be of any importance to the English consumer, whether the duty was imposed on the importation of corn from Ireland, or any other country?—I do not think it would materially affect the consumer.

Not more in one case than another?—No.

The consumer is always interested in having his corn at a low price?—If corn bears a pretty fair remunerating price, I believe the consumer can always vend his articles at a better price, he obtains a better market.

Are horses bred upon the farms in Holderness?—There are some bred there.

Do you breed any?—But very few.

What is the value of the Holderness breed of horses?—The coach-horses and horses for draft are the principal horses bred there.

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What is the value of horses now, compared with the period at which you began farming?—I have been a farmer all my life, and I believe real good horses are not much depreciated in value.

What rent do you suppose to be paid for the land on which your calculation has been formed?—Thirty shillings an acre, and tithe free.

If the whole rent were given up, could you afford to produce corn at the present price?—If the whole rent was given up I might; according to that calculation, the loss to the occupier paying 30s. a year rent is 1*l.* 7*s.* therefore there would be some profit for him if the whole rent was given up.

What do you understand to be the general condition, in point of property, of the tradesmen in your neighbourhood?—They are all complaining very much indeed, and many failures have occurred at Hull.

What cause have they assigned for those failures?—The depreciation in the value of the mercantile produce, the articles they deal in.

Do they think that the depression of agriculture has any reference to it?—Many of them do begin to think so; and that it is the falling off of the consumption at home.

Has there been any material change in latter times, of their views in this respect?—There has.

Is there any increased difficulty in obtaining pecuniary accommodation from bankers than there used to be?—Yes; on account of the people they have to do business with having much less capital; I believe there are very few farmers that can be accommodated by an advance of money.

Are there many wealthy cornfactors in your neighbourhood?—Not very wealthy; there are several who keep up their credit and respectability, and there are some failures among them.

Has it been their practice to accommodate the farmers with loans of money, or assistance in the way of credit, upon the faith of their crops?—I believe it was the case a few years back, but they are very cautious now; some of them have suffered very materially by it, on account of the farmer being unable to pay, having lost his capital.

Do you think the distress of the farmer is materially heightened by being deprived of that accommodation?—I really do not know that it is; if he was accommodated he would struggle on with his difficulties, and get more and more involved in debt probably.

Has the ownership of land, in your neighbourhood, changed much of late years?—Not a great deal; I do not know that it has been more so of late than many years preceding.

Has the value fallen?—Yes, considerably.

To what extent?—I am scarcely able to speak to that; I should think land that a few years back was worth £. 35 per acre to purchase, is not worth above £. 30 now.

Do you conceive that much land in your neighbourhood was purchased at the time when the value was at the higher rate you have mentioned?—There was more purchased then than now; but the principal land in our neighbourhood is held by very considerable proprietors.

Has any reduction taken place in the rent of land?—Yes, in some instances, but not generally, from 10 to 25 per cent.

Have you a flock?—Yes.

Do you get rid of your wool easily?—Yes, it bears a good price.

George Webb Hall, Esquire, Called in; and Examined.

YOU are a farmer?—Yes, residing at Sneed Park in the county of Gloucester.

You act as Chairman of the Committee of Management?—Yes, I do.

State to the Committee the general object you have in view, in appearing before them to give evidence?—The object is stated in the case I have had the honour of submitting to the whole House; I beg to hand in a book, containing the proceedings at the meetings of persons interested in agriculture, to obtain equal protection for the skill, capital and industry of those employed in agriculture, which those who are employed in manufactures and commerce have already obtained. [*Handing in a book.*] These are all the letters I have received from different parts of England, in January, February and March, [*producing some letters,*] containing the representations of different persons not summoned to give evidence here. The first thing I wish to have the honour of submitting to the Committee, is the imperfect protection given

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given to all agricultural productions; and the extraordinary protection given to every other branch of skill, capital and industry.

You state that with a view of producing a remedy?—Yes.

Have you any thing to state respecting the depressed state of agricultural produce?—I have nothing to offer upon that subject; I merely wish to give evidence of the inequality of the present protection given to agriculture, compared with the protection given to manufactures and commerce; wheat, meal, flour, rye, and oats, pay only 2*d.* per last of ten quarters; in fact, it may be said to be duty free; so that wheat, meal, flour, rye, oats, peas, beans, barley, beer or bigg are duty free; wool only 6*d.* per pound, flax dressed pays a high duty, undressed 5*d.* per cwt.; hemp undressed 9*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. hides 10*d.* per hide; tallow, in British-built ships, 3*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. not British ships, 4*s.*; seeds, but a light duty, which I cannot state exactly; butter 20*s.* per cwt. in British-built ships, not British-built ships 1*l.* 5*s.*; cheese 10*s.* 6*d.* in British-built ships, not British-built, 13*s.*; apples, per bushel, 4*s.* which is sufficient if the measure is the same, but we think the measure is larger; pears 7*s.* 6*d.* per bushel; that includes the whole of what we say are the protecting duties already. The first thing we venture to ask is a permanent duty, whatever may be the price, of 40*s.* per quarter upon wheat, and we do it on this principle, that wheat may be imported upon an average of years from 30*s.* to 35*s.* per quarter into the port of London: we then say that 40*s.* per quarter will raise foreign wheat only to 75*s.* or within the price at which it can be grown, on the average of years, in this country. Upon the same scale, we should ask 12*s.* per cwt. upon meal, 14*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. upon flour, 26*s.* 6*d.* per quarter upon rye, 13*s.* 6*d.* upon oats, 26*s.* 6*d.* upon beans, and 20*s.* per quarter upon barley, beer or bigg, which would be upon the average, a protecting duty of about fifty per cent; upon every other thing we humbly submit to this Committee, that by parity of reasoning, and to put our skill, capital and industry upon an equality of protection with every other branch of skill, capital and industry in the kingdom, we may presume to ask for a duty of thirty-three per cent, estimated upon the average price of such article; because, in looking over the rate of duties, I observe that almost every branch of skill, capital and industry is protected by a duty of not less than 37*l.* 10*s.* per cent, and many as high as 100*l.* per cent. We contend that agriculture is, in principle, though not in name, a manufactory and that it is impossible to compete with the growers of such productions who are not subject to the duties and taxes payable on residence in this country; that it would be as difficult, nay impossible, for the grower to do it, as for a trader in exciseable articles to pay his duties if smuggling should be tolerated. We then contend, that all the distress that has arisen in every branch of industry in the kingdom has been affected by the degradation of our agriculture; if the prices of 1813 for agricultural productions, are compared with the average of the intervening seven years, I believe it will appear that the intervening prices are not more than two-thirds of what every sort of production obtained in 1813, so that there has been a depreciation of 33 per cent in almost every production we grow. We then say, that the supply and demand having grown up together, and having adjusted themselves to each other in 1813, nothing could have disturbed their relative proportions, to the extent which experience has shown they have been disturbed, but the introduction of commodities, similar to those of our own growth, duty free; that such has been the fact is evident, either by the comparison, in detail, of the prices of 1813 and the present year, or the intervening space, or by taking the aggregate amount, as alleged by Colquhoun, to have been the result, and comparing and checking his results with the respective payments to the property tax, which I have done, and by which it will appear that the total degradation in value of our agricultural productions is not less than seventy millions per annum, or the third of 216 millions. Admitting that to be the case, we contend that nothing can restore what has become the natural value of agricultural productions in this country as long as the same taxation shall continue, but placing a counter-vailing duty upon the import of all productions, similar to those of our own soil. I have nothing further to advance in chief upon this point.

In your opinion, if lower duties were imposed than those you have mentioned, could corn be grown at all, with the present burthens upon the land?—I think not, certainly not; I have a great number of letters from different parts of England, almost all stating the 40*s.* duty to be too low. I have used whatever little influence I had with the gentlemen, to intreat them to be content with 40*s.* because I have told them, it is of no use to make too hard a bargain with the merchants and manufacturers, who will be for ever petitioning to undo what might be effected, if the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

It

It is not your opinion that 40 s. will be sufficient?—It is barely sufficient; I think it would so nearly balance the protection, that wheat could not be imported to any considerable extent without the importers being punished by the extent of their own import; which they are not at present, as long as wheat shall continue to be imported duty free.

You have stated 35 s. as the cost of imported corn?—Yes.

And you add 40 s. to bring up the price to 75 s.?—Yes.

Is not 80 s. what the farmer has now as the remunerating price?—Yes; but as the merchant imports for lucre, and not for the purpose of feeding this country, there would be very little temptation left for them to import to any considerable extent; and if they did so import, they would be only making a rod for their own backs, by reducing the price here below that which would pay them for that import.

Do not the farmers till the ground likewise for lucre?—Yes.

Do you draw a different line between manufacturers and farmers, as to the extent of that lucre?—It would not be an object to the merchant to import if there was no lucre.

Do you think 5 s. is necessary for the importing merchant as an encouragement, and not for the farmer?—I could have no objection to the additional 5 s. but I do not like to ask more than I think we can obtain.

You are only giving your opinion as to what it is most practicable to obtain?—I think 40 s. would be a sufficient protecting duty.

How do you estimate 35 s. the price of foreign corn?—Only from the information of people in the trade.

Would it be necessary, if you were going to lay on a perpetual duty as a protection, and were calculating upon the price that this corn could be imported at, to be very accurate in it, and to be rather over than under it, in case the farmer should suffer?—I have already said, and I adhere to it, that 40 s. would be an adequate protection.

You have mentioned meal, and you have calculated the prices?—That is done by a miller; I do not know any thing of meal.

Then in order that meal and wheat should be at an equivalent, you ought to have put more upon the meal, for no quarter of wheat ever produced four hundred weight of meal?—This account has been submitted to the Committee by a large miller, and if he is incorrect that is his fault.

Wheat is estimated at 40 s. a quarter, and meal at only 10 s. a hundred weight; that is upon the presumption that a quarter of wheat produces four hundred weight of meal?—A quarter of wheat would weigh about 470 lb.

It would not produce two hundred weight and a half; then why do you state meal as having a competent price annexed to it at 10 s. a hundred weight, when you know the quarter of wheat cannot produce four hundred weight?—It is a manufactured article, that is the reason; I suppose the miller considered a higher duty necessary for it, that is the only reason; there must be a profit got upon the grinding, and he wishes to protect that profit also.

Are you acquainted with the prices of corn for the last twelve months at Odessa, at Archangel, at St. Petersburg, at Riga and other places from whence that commodity comes?—I am not.

Are you acquainted with the present price of wheat, in the United States?—I am not.

Are you acquainted with the present price of wheat in Canada?—Certainly not; I have no connection with either place.

Then upon what grounds is it you state in evidence, that 40 s. per quarter would be a sufficient protecting duty?—Because all the persons I have conversed with in the trade, state about 35 s. to be the average at which it may be imported.

Have you not heard, from some of the sources to which you have had recourse, that wheat from the Black Sea, Petersburg, and the other places mentioned, may during the last year have been laid down in the Port of London, at 28 s. and lower?—Certainly, I have.

Are you sufficiently acquainted with the nature of the markets for corn in the countries and places stated in the question, to enable you to come to a conclusion, that the probable price of future seasons would be delivered in the Port of London below 35 s.?—No; I am unacquainted with those things, and do not wish to exhibit myself as giving evidence upon that part of the question; what I have, I know only from the report of persons in the trade.

Then supposing that the Legislature, in its wisdom, were to yield to your suggestion, and that from different countries wheat could be imported at 28 s. per quarter, or

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lower, might not the greatest injury be sustained by the farmers, if the present law were abrogated?—I think certainly not so great an injury under that law, as under the present, by any means, and for this reason, because we all know, that an import to any extent will lower the price in this market; and as long as the importer shall be subjected to a duty of 40 s. long before he could import thirty millions of bushels of corn, it is my opinion he would reduce the price below a remunerating one to himself, and the import would cease. We have the evidence of the returns to Parliament, that upwards of 26 millions were returned at the opening of the ports up to the 5th of January 1819, and adding the average import for the remaining 41 days up to the 15th of February, I estimate the import during the opening of the ports at 30 millions of bushels; and the temptation to such an extraordinary import has been, the apparent or expected profit of one hundred per cent whenever the ports should close, which by no possibility could ever happen if they imported subject to a duty.

Are you acquainted with the general result of the speculations in corn for the last seven years?—I am not.

Do you apprehend the persons who have engaged themselves in such trade, have been gainers or losers upon the whole?—I have no means of knowing; but looking with the eye of general observation only, they have been unfortunate certainly; and for this reason, speculators seldom calculate the effect of their own imports upon the market; the original temptation has been a hundred per cent profit, but they have imported until the price of the whole mass in this kingdom has been reduced to its present degraded value.

Do you apprehend that the judgment of the speculator in corn is regulated by other principles than those which regulate the judgment of speculators in any other articles?—No, certainly not; but where the difference has been so very great, as between the natural price of corn in this country and the natural price of corn at Odessa and the other places mentioned by the Committee, all judgment seems to be out of the question, because the speculator, till the experience of the last six years had convinced him of his error, seems always to have considered that nothing could reduce wheat below the price of ten shillings per bushel in England.

What do you apprehend to be the natural price of corn at Odessa?—I have heard, and only know by hearsay, two shillings per bushel; I have samples in my house of good wheat said to cost no more.

Do you apprehend that what you term the natural price depends upon the money price at any particular period?—That term natural price had no relation to what is called the money price, but the cost of labour in the production, which I consider more than any other to regulate the price of every commodity, and every property we can name.

You have stated, that corn being a manufacture, if it were burthened, in the same degree, with taxes in other countries, that it is burthened with in this, that if that amount could be ascertained, the difference would be a due estimation of the duty that ought to be imposed upon it?—I have no means of knowing the taxes of those countries.

You have stated, that you would set 40 s. per quarter as a protection upon wheat; and 10 s. per hundred weight upon flour; you are aware that a quarter of wheat contains only two hundred weight and a half, if, therefore, this were to prevail, as you recommend, there would be a recommendation to import all in flour, and none in wheat, because the flour would be subject only to thirty shillings?—I am not aware of such a variation, but if there is, it is a mistake.

Supposing it to be an error, would not the effect be this, that if foreign corn was to come into this country, in consequence of the want of sufficient here, that the temptation of thirty shillings per quarter would be a temptation to import all in flour, and none in wheat?—It is evidently a mistake, if it is so, because flour is meant to have a protection above corn.

What protection do you mean for flour; should it be more or less than wheat?—More; that is, put at fourteen shillings per hundred weight.

The flour is here a separate article at fourteen shillings per hundred weight, how many hundred weight do you compute there is of flour in a quarter of wheat?—I am perfectly incompetent to state that; but a miller will be sent to the Committee who is more able to state that than I am.

You have spoken of indirect taxation having an influence upon our agriculture?—Yes.

What should be the protecting duty to countervail the operation of that taxation?—

Taking

Taking the taxation and the prices as they were in 1813 not to be increased, I think.

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The question went to taxation only, not to the prices?—It must be so; taking the prices as they were in 1813, then I think the rate I have now submitted to the Committee sufficient; but if taxation should be hereafter increased, it will be necessary to raise that protection in the exact proportion to the increase of such taxation.

The Committee understand from you, that if corn was to be imported duty free, and the farmers had no taxation, there would be no occasion for any duty?—I have not stated that.

Do you think there would be any occasion for duty if the farmer was under no taxation, and corn was imported duty free; would there be any necessity for a protecting duty?—Yes.

To what extent?—That would depend upon the variation in the price of labour; because if you admit corn from soils that can be worked cheaper, whether from people living lower or paying less taxes, it will supersede the employment of our own labourers, or reduce them to a level with the poorer country.

To what amount would you think the duty ought to go to correct what you state?—That would depend upon the experience that would be derived from attempting to traffic under such unequal circumstances.

Can you state what has been the weight of taxation, direct or indirect, with which the farmer is affected here?—I consider the direct taxation to be not more than one part in a hundred in his expense.

The indirect taxation?—That is what operates against the farmer.

How much does it operate upon a quarter of corn?—I have no means of knowing if you reduce by the introduction of foreign produce, duty free.

The question did not go to that?—I have no means of measuring; I say corn was at its natural price in 1813.

The Committee understand you to have said, that the farmer is oppressed by direct and indirect taxation?—Yes.

By both?—Yes; I did not use the word oppressed; I said he could not, on his part, compete with the foreign farmer; but he is distressed.

What is the amount of indirect taxation?—That depends upon every man's consumption.

Supposing it was taken off, could he send his corn to market at a lower price than he does now?—I do not see the bearing of that question.

The Committee wish to know what incumbrance the indirect taxes are upon the farmer?—I view it in this way: that up to a certain period they have adjusted themselves to each other, the indirect taxation and the price; the one begets the other, and they would have continued in amity up to this moment if foreign produce had not been admitted duty free.

If Parliament were ready to give you a full countervailing duty by way of protection, what is the duty you would ask?—I should ask forty shillings, because I do not wish to drive too hard a bargain.

What would you ask if you put the bargain out of the question?—I am contented with forty shillings.

If you were a farmer would that content you?—I am a farmer, and I should be content with it, and I would rather take it in that way than with reference to a restriction to a certain point.

Have you not said just now, that from the inquiries you have made you find forty shillings not satisfactory, generally?—There are persons who object.

And you have letters stating that it was not enough?—Yes; the greater number state that it is not enough.

The majority of opinions state that it is not enough?—Yes.

Have they stated what is enough?—Some men never know when they have enough; some have asked 50s. some 45s.; I have not known any go beyond 50s.

In the event of a very productive year but a very bad harvest, when the corn was all laid and spoiled by the wet and very ill got in, and of course this producing a low price at market, would not foreign competition, at five shillings a bushel duty, in such a case be very injurious to agriculture in this country?—It might, but it would never ruin it as the importation duty free has; it would never produce such a degradation, because the imports would recoil upon themselves, but withholding that duty it does not.

Are you of opinion that the present corn laws are no protection to the farmer?—

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Certainly they are not; they are insufficient and ineffectual, and have been so from the beginning.

Can you state what proportion of the present rate, tithes and taxes, which the farmers now pay, if they were reduced, what proportion of them being reduced, would enable him to compete with the foreigners at our market with foreign corn, supposing no duty to be laid on?—No, I cannot; I do not attach the same value to all those calculations which many other persons do.

Have you any other remedies to propose for the grievances now complained of by the agriculturist?—I have none, nor do I see any other.

In your opinion, can the revenue be supported, if some further protection is not given to the farmer?—Certainly not.

If the importation of flour could be prohibited, would there not be a great deal more labour thrown into our market, which is now given to foreigners?—There would be some little, but as I have never entered into the component parts of that labour, I am not so competent to speak to that, as other persons who have been concerned in it.

Are the present corn laws of any use whatever to the farmer?—I cannot tell how to define the point to which they have been of use; it is difficult to say, because it has admitted, by its own operation, before the ports had closed again, 30 millions of bushels of corn and grain, which it now appears have been constantly in the market, from the 15th of February 1819, to the present hour, on sale, and always ready to prevent the corn of British growth from reaching its natural value.

Are you now talking of free corn, or bonded corn?—I am talking of free corn, that has never been locked-up, but become amalgamated with and formed part and parcel of the stock of British corn on hand, both in London and the out-ports.

Knowing all these circumstances, if you now had the power to get rid of the present corn law altogether, would you do it?—Certainly, I would; it is of no validity, I conceive, to the grower; it has totally failed affording him any protection.

Then you think it would be a great improvement, if a permanent duty of ten or twenty shillings were laid on the importation of corn?—Certainly not; it would be so perfectly inadequate as to be useless, instead of an improvement.

Inasmuch as it would afford some protection, and the present law, according to your statement, affords none, it would be an improvement on the present system?—I do not think it could be called a protection at all; it would be a division of profit between the importer and the grower, which would not be entitled to the term protection.

If you had your choice of having a duty to the amount of ten or twenty shillings upon the importation of corn, or no duty whatever, you would prefer having no duty whatever?—I do not know that I should; it would be altogether no protection; it would be a division of profit, and that is all it would amount to, and a very unequal one it would amount to.

Have there not been great importations of corn from Ireland?—Very great; we are principally fed at Bristol with Irish corn.

Do you not think it desirable to impose a duty on the importation of corn from Ireland?—Unquestionably not; by no means; any more than I would on the importation of corn from Devonshire.

Would it not act as a protection to the British farmer?—Certainly not; they are one empire, and what they receive for corn they lay out in manufactured goods.

Do not all other countries do the same?—I believe not; certainly not; as far as I have understood they are paid by the coin of the country.

How much coin of late years have we had in circulation, by means of which we have been enabled to pay for the importation of foreign corn?—I have no means of knowing what we have had in circulation, but I calculate that seventy millions less has been in circulation in consequence of the degradation in value of our agricultural productions.

Do you, in your conscience, believe that we paid for the corn which we have imported by the exportation of coin or bullion?—I have no knowledge, and therefore can have no belief upon the subject; it is only from report I know any thing.

But according to the general knowledge you have on these subjects, does not it appear evident to you, that no great quantity of corn could be imported into this country without a corresponding exportation of commodities to the same value?—Certainly not; though there has been no corresponding export there may be a partial one, but by no means a corresponding one; I do not think our exports to all Europe ever amounted to any thing like the value we have imported in corn.

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Do you think that corn was given to us for nothing?—No, I do not believe it was given for nothing; but if it had been, and had been used in this country to reduce the natural price of corn grown here, it would have operated most injuriously upon the industry of the country; and one of the greatest calamities which I conceive could by any possibility be inflicted on Great Britain, would be to have corn for nothing; the calamity next in degree would be to have it below a remunerating price.

You have still not given an answer to the question, which is with respect to what was given in exchange for the corn we have imported?—I have no knowledge; I never bought a single grain of foreign corn in my life; I have no knowledge.

Have you no belief on the subject?—I cannot believe a thing I do not know.

On whom does the injury fall which arises from the protection given to manufactures?—I conceive on the consumer; I consider all taxation to be paid by the last holder of the commodity for which the tax is paid.

Then you think that the injury falls equally on all consumers, whether they be agriculturists or any other description of consumers?—I can make no distinction; I am not aware of any.

On what principle then should the agriculturist claim protection on account of the protecting duty given to the manufacturer?—For the same reason that the manufacturer claims that protection against the import of foreign productions from places where labour is so much cheaper than in this country; for the identical reason that he does, and no other; it is founded on the same principle.

You do not mean to say that the stockholder, or the person deriving his income from any other permanent source, is less injured, as a consumer, in the purchase of those protected commodities than the agriculturist?—At present the stockholder gets all his commodities at half price; I have no knowledge of any injury the stockholder would sustain.

You have already stated, that all consumers are injured by the protection given to manufactures; must not then the stockholder, as a consumer, be equally injured with the other consumers?—No; the stockholder is not obtaining his livelihood by skill, capital, or industry, but I am.

A protecting duty on any manufactured commodity tends to raise its price to the consumer; must not then the stockholder, as well as every other consumer, be injured by such increased price?—Impossible; because he has acquired his wealth under the impulse which has been given to every species of skill, capital, and industry during the progress of the price to the standard which it attained in 1813; therefore it cannot bear upon him.

He would, however, be better off if no such protecting duty existed?—He would then abandon all the protections of this constitution altogether.

What effect would a great improvement in agriculture have on the market price of corn, if for example it were to enable us, with the same quantity of skill and labour, to produce twenty-five per cent more corn?—I am not aware of the facility of producing twenty-five per cent more corn with the same skill and labour.

The Committee are at liberty to suppose the case, and they ask your opinion if such an event should occur?—I cannot form any conception of the practicability of it.

Suppose, by the use of certain improved machinery, or the use of better manure, or from other causes, a greater quantity of corn should be obtained by a certain quantity of capital and skill, the Committee ask you what effects that would produce on the interests of agriculturists?—I am aware the honourable member is applying the facilities which other manufacturers have obtained in the use of steam engines and other powers to the cultivation of the soil, my experience of thirty-five years in the cultivation of the soil has not taught me to expect or believe that it is possible to produce a similar effect in agriculture.

Do you think it impossible that some improvements may be made in agriculture so as to enable us to increase the quantity of produce?—I am not aware of any such operation but by manuring, the proper rotation of crops, and the cleansing of the fallows.

The Committee understood you to say, that you thought the greatest calamity that could befall this country would be having wheat for nothing?—Yes.

Do you conceive there are any people in this country of any class that have not as much as they can eat?—I am afraid there are too many.

G. Webb Hall,
Esq.

(28 March.)

Would they not have as much if they could get wheat for nothing?—Certainly not; the labour of man would be superseded.

Why would not they have so much, if they could get it for nothing?—It is a state of society which cannot exist.

Why cannot such a state of society exist?—The experience of all ages has taught us that where people could get food for nothing they would not work for it.

Why would they be obliged to work for it if they could get it for nothing; why is it necessary they should work for it; would it not be better to have it for nothing than work for it?—No, certainly not; it would destroy the whole fabric of civilized society.

If wheat was as plenty as water, would any people be without a sufficient quantity for subsistence?—I should suppose we should then be in a state of nature, and should never improve.

Was last year's crop an average crop?—Rather below an average crop generally; in our part of the country it was not; but in the kingdom throughout it was.

Veneris, 30^o die Martii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

G. Webb Hall, Esq.;

Again Called in, and Examined.

G. Webb Hall,
Esq.

(30 March.)

HAVE you any correction to make in your evidence of the last day?—No, only to put in this paper.

[*It was delivered in and read, as follows:*]

“ PROTECTION TO COMMERCE.

“ BY the 12th Charles II, c. 18, commonly called the Navigation Act, and which is intituled, ‘ An Act for the encouraging and increasing of Shipping and Navigation,’ it is enacted, “ That from and after the 1st day of December 1660, and from thenceforward, no goods or commodities whatsoever shall be imported into any lands, islands, plantations or territories to his Majesty belonging, or in his possession, or which may hereafter belong unto, or be in the possession of his Majesty, his heirs and successors, in Asia, Africa or America, in any other ship or ships, vessel or vessels whatsoever, but in such ships or vessels as do truly and without fraud, belong only to the people of England or Ireland, dominion of Wales, or town of Berwick upon Tweed, or are of the built of and belonging to any of the said lands, islands, plantations or territories, as the proprietors and right owners thereof, and whereof the master and three-fourths of the mariners at least are English, under the penalty of the forfeiture and loss of all the goods and commodities which shall be imported into or exported out of any the aforesaid places in any other ship or vessel, as also of the ship or vessel, with all its guns, furniture, tackle, ammunition and apparel.”

“ PROTECTION TO MANUFACTURES.

“ Import Duty.

				£.	s.	d.
Baskets, where not enumerated, per cent	-	-	-	37	10	0
Bottles of glass, not enumerated, per cent	-	-	-	72	0	0
Boxes, not enumerated, per cent	-	-	-	37	10	0
Brass manufactures, per cent	-	-	-	37	10	0
Candles, per cwt.	-	-	-	2	0	0
Caps, cotton, per cent	-	-	-	54	0	0
D ^o worsted, per cent	-	-	-	37	10	0
						Carpets,

	£.	s.	d.
Carpets, not enumerated, per cent - - - - -	37	10	0
Carriages of all sorts, per cent - - - - -	37	10	0
China ware, not enumerated, per cent - - - - -	50	0	0
Clocks, per cent - - - - -	37	10	0
Cotton manufactures, not enumerated, per cent - - - - -	54	0	0
Earthenware, per cent - - - - -	50	0	0
Gauze of thread, per cent - - - - -	40	0	0
Glass, not enumerated, per cent - - - - -	72	0	0
Hats, each - - - - -	1	1	6
Hides, or pieces of hides tanned, tawed, curried, or in any way dressed, not enumerated, per cent - - - - -	90	0	0
Leather, any article made of leather, per cent - - - - -	90	0	0
Linen sails, per cent - - - - -	54	10	0
D° printed d° - - - - -	90	0	0
Steel, not enumerated, per cent - - - - -	37	10	0
Telescopes, per cent - - - - -	37	10	0
Thread cotton, per cent - - - - -	54	0	0
Woollen cloths, all manner of, per yard - - - - -	1	1	6

G. Webb Hall,
Esq.

(30 March.)

In addition to which, no wool of British growth, can be exported."

Have the goodness to explain the last answer which you gave on the former day?—The explanation which I give is this, that food constitutes the principal portion of our wealth, and the production of that food the principal labour of man, and, if that were superseded, agriculture, commerce, manufacture, and the arts would perfectly cease, if men were to have their food for nothing, that was the position; then, I say, the next calamity in degree is to have food below a remunerating price; if such a calamity as that were to befall the country such would be the end of society.

If it were within the compass of possibility that corn or bread could be had for nothing?—Certainly; I conceive not.

Then the whole of your reasoning is founded upon an hypothesis that cannot possibly exist?—Certainly; most unquestionably.

If a great deal less labour and capital were necessary to produce the food of the country, would there not be a greater quantity of labour and capital disposable for the purpose of obtaining the other commodities desirable to man?—I am not aware of any possibility of reducing that labour; it does not appear to me that agriculture is subject to all the inventions which man has discovered in manufactures; I do not think it is applicable to the agriculture of the country.

If a great deal less labour and capital were necessary to produce the food of the country, would there not be a greater quantity of labour and capital disposable for the purpose of obtaining the other commodities desirable to man?—I am not aware of any possibility of reducing it to the extent supposed, or any way which shall produce the effect supposed.

A case has been put to you of the food of the country being obtained for nothing; the question put to you was not so extravagant as that, it supposes only that the food of the country could be obtained with more facility than it is now obtained; would there not be then more labour and capital disposable for other purposes?—I would not undertake to give a decisive answer to the question immediately; it is possible it might; I am not aware of the advantage that would be to the country.

If a man had a capital of 5,000*l.* engaged in farming, and by improvements in the saving of labour 4,500*l.* was adequate to produce the same quantity of corn on his farm, might he not employ the remaining 500*l.* in obtaining other commodities useful to him?—Certainly.

You have stated, that it would not be beneficial to a farmer to be protected against the importation of corn from Ireland?—I do not remember stating that; I stated we did not desire it; that they were part of the same empire, and that we were no more desirous to be guarded against imports from Ireland, than we were from imports from Devonshire.

You were understood to say, in your last examination, that the importations from Ireland would not be hurtful, because we exported manufactured commodities in return for the corn so imported, but that it would be injurious to import corn from foreign countries, because we did not so pay for them in manufactures?—That was not precisely, as well as I remember, my answer.

G. Webb Hall,
Esq.

(30 March.)

Will you be so good as to explain to the Committee in what respect you think the importations from foreign countries would be more injurious to a farmer than importations from Ireland?—I can have no difficulty, certainly, in doing that, because from foreign countries the growers are in no ways subject to the indirect taxation of this country; they have labour at a much cheaper rate than either England or Ireland; the difference of expense in growing corn in Ireland and in England is not so great as might be imagined; we have compared notes, and we have found but a very small difference indeed between the expense of growing corn in Ireland and in England, bearing no proportion to any thing we hear of in different parts of Europe.

The soil is much more fertile in Ireland, generally speaking, than it is in England; is it not?—It is not till very lately, generally speaking, that they have attended to the cultivation of corn.

If 300,000 quarters of corn be introduced into the British market, is it of any importance to the British farmer, whether that corn be grown at a cheap or a dear price; or whether it comes from Ireland, or from any other country?—Unquestionably of the utmost importance, because it enables the holder to sell at a price which will ruin the British grower, if it be grown as cheap as it is shown to be grown on the Continent.

But providing it be actually at market, it must have the same effect on the price?—That depends upon the will of the holder.

The price at which corn can be grown, may be a reason for increasing or diminishing the supply; but if it be once produced and brought to market, why should it have any different effect on the price?—From the superior ability of one person to sell lower than another; it is precisely like my carrying weight against a man who carries none, if the man not carrying weight is permitted to sell in the same market.

Is not the price of corn in Mark-lane market, regulated by the proportion of the demand to the supply?—Certainly; or in other words, as I always state, by the supply to the demand, unquestionably it is there and elsewhere.

Without any consideration of the country from which the corn comes, or the price at which it has been raised?—Certainly; the price is so regulated by the supply.

From the general information that you possess respecting Ireland, do you believe that the agriculture of Ireland would flourish without the permanent advantage of the market of England?—I think not; it is only since wheat has been in demand, that they have attended to the agriculture of Ireland; they have been more stock farmers than cultivators.

Are you not aware of the extensive injury the agriculture of Ireland has sustained, by the recent importation of corn from foreign countries, and particularly in the article of oats?—I have heard great complaints from all parties concerned; and unquestionably they have been more injured than any other parts, because they have grown more oats there.

You have alluded to the advantages that the use of machinery in other trades gives which is in a great degree inapplicable to agriculture, do you mean to argue that this is amongst the reasons why a superior protection should be given to agriculture than to other trades?—It may be a reason certainly.

If a man as a farmer employ 5,000 *l.* in raising his corn, and could as has been before supposed, raise it by improvements in agriculture with a capital of 4,500 *l.* would not the price of corn fall?—That would depend upon the abundance of the crop, and not because of a diminished capital.

But supposing the average crop to be the same, although different amounts of capital are employed?—It might have an effect if we could by any possibility imagine that crops would be always alike, but that is quite impossible.

But generally speaking, does not the value of corn depend upon the cost to the farmer?—Clearly it does.

Then it follows, that in proportion as he can diminish his capital he can afford to sell his produce at a cheaper price?—I should rather think in proportion as he could diminish his expense.

Does not the farmer by diminishing his capital actually diminish his expense?—That depends on circumstances; not if direct and indirect taxation is kept up.

Not supposing any alteration in any thing but the capital?—Certainly. Yes, if he diminishes his capital, he by so much diminishes his expense.

Then you agree, that in proportion as the farmer can diminish the capital which he employs on his land, the price of corn will fall?—That does not follow, because the price of corn depends on supply and demand.

But supposing the supply always to be the same?—That is impossible.

But

But taking the average of years?—Taking the average of years, if it were possible, to suppose that impossibility, it would be so, certainly.

It follows then from the admissions which you have made, that if England were to raise all the corn which she requires for her people with a diminished capital, the aggregate value of the corn she consumes would be less than it now is?—Yes, which would be a very great misfortune to the country; the subject of all the complaints of the petitioners.

You admit, however, that the aggregate value would be less?—Yes.

—If England had the power of employing the capital which she thus withdrew from the land in the production of other commodities, would it then be a misfortune to her?—I am not aware of the possibility of doing so, and therefore I cannot answer the question.

If it were possible, would it be advantageous or otherwise to England?—If it were possible, it would be advantageous; but I deny the possibility.

If the whole aggregate quantity of corn raised in England were of less value, in consequence of the employment of a less capital, would the people of England be less able to bear their present burthens?—It is possible they might; very possible.

Do you think they would be less able to bear their present burthens solely on that account?—Yes, I do, because it is only the value of capital and of labour, which we have to set against the national debt; and I think a reduction in value of the agricultural capital, would leave a less balance to set against the national debt.

If we had no national debt, you would think it a very decided advantage?—It would not have the same effect; it might be.

Do you think that the countervailing duties which you propose, would be advantageous to the consumers of corn, or to the growers of it?—I am of opinion, the cultivation of this island must cease without countervailing duties.

The question was not with respect to the cultivation of the country ceasing, but whether the countervailing duties you proposed would be advantageous to the farmers, or would be advantageous to the people of England, as consumers?—Exceedingly advantageous to both, as my opinion is, neither can exist without.

You say that we cannot compete with foreign growers in raising corn, would you not then advise us to quit a trade in which our labour is so unsuccessfully employed?—Certainly not; we should quit the best source of wealth this country has; I consider the creative power of agriculture over all the commerce and manufactures of the country, to be more than three to one; I consider, from information which I received from persons who are competent, honourable members of this House, that the whole of the export trade is not more than one-sixth of our commerce and manufactures, which shows the whole of the export trade of the country to be equal to only one-eighteenth part of our present agriculture; that we should be then abandoning an occupation, which now produces seventeen to one against any foreign trade that could be substituted for it.

If we were to import a large quantity of foreign corn, would not our export trade increase?—It might; but not more than in the ratio of one, perhaps, in eighteen, agriculture being seventeen to one superior to our foreign trade.

If we were to make sugar from beet root in this country, would it not be necessary to have a very high countervailing duty, to enable us to compete with the grower and manufacturer of sugar in the West Indies?—Yes.

Would it be wise to persevere in such a trade?—Unquestionably, if it found occupation and maintenance for so large a proportion of the population of this country as the growth of corn does.

If the population of England were greatly to increase, and we determined to feed them from our own land, would it not be necessary to have a higher countervailing duty on the importation of foreign corn, than the one which you have proposed?—I should consider that would depend upon the scale of taxation; if that were increased, it would.

Supposing taxation to remain precisely as it now is?—I think not.

Would you say not, if the population were double?—Yes, I should.

Would you say not, if it were treble?—That is beyond me; I cannot go to that, but to double I will, because every man would create his own means of subsistence, by his occupation.

Then are the Committee to understand that it is your opinion that the population of this country, if it were doubled, would be fed by the cultivation of our own lands without making it necessary to lay a higher protecting duty on the importation of corn than 40 s.?—To give any decided opinion, it would take some time to calculate.

G. Webb Hall,
Esq.

(30 March)

But you are decidedly of opinion, that a very great increase of population might take place in this country, without rendering any greater countervailing duty necessary?—Yes, I should think so.

Do you not think that if we were obliged to cultivate our poorer lands in order to feed an increased number of people, that the corn so raised on the poorer lands, must sell at a higher price than the corn now raised?—Oh dear no; the cost of production does not enter into the price, the man sells by supply and demand; the man who has the misfortune to cultivate those poor soils, is alone the sufferer.

Then the price of corn is not at all influenced by the cost of its production?—That becomes a question with the man, whether he will grow it; having so grown it, he cannot command his price by his expenditure.

What do you think would be the price of corn in this country, if the trade were perfectly free, and foreign corn were allowed to be imported without restriction?—I hold it to be quite impossible for this country to exist under such circumstances, and therefore I can form no conception of what the price would be.

Do you think that the people of England could be entirely fed with imported corn?—Impossible.

Would any man consent to raise the quantity which would be necessary to be grown in this country, unless he were paid a remunerating price for it?—He embarks on the voyage first, and ascertains the result afterwards; it would be very contrary to his inclination to do so; but he may have had the misfortune to do so; and unhappily, few men in this country have been growing grain without that misfortune, for the last few years.

You have stated the price at which we could obtain corn from foreign countries, to be 35*s.* per quarter; do you think that if unrestricted importation of corn were allowed, that the price of corn would be 35*s.* a quarter, in this country?—I have no idea what it would be, because by allowing unrestricted import of corn in the first place, we should not have the means of paying for it; and in the next, we should convert the whole of Europe into manufacturing countries, by the price we should then pay them for their corn, as long as it lasted.

What effect, do you think, would a permanent demand for a million quarters of wheat have on the prices of wheat abroad?—I have never made any calculation.

Do you think, however, it would very considerably raise the present price of 35*s.*?—I should think not; I think it is a million of quarters imported this year, that has not raised it; it has lowered it; it is lower, and lower abroad now.

Supposing the demand should be for two millions of quarters, would that raise the price abroad?—Without knowing the breadth of corn grown, it is impossible for me to answer the question.

Do you think yourself sufficiently informed of the means which foreign countries have of supplying us with wheat, to form a correct opinion of what ought to be the protecting price of corn?—No, I have no knowledge, but from the general price in this market.

How came you, then, so confidently to assert, that 40*s.* was a price absolutely necessary to protect the British farmer?—Because at this moment, and when corn is as low, or lower than it has almost ever been, you could not import at a duty of 40*s.*

If all protections were withdrawn from other trades, would you then think that the trade in corn should be free?—Not whilst we have so large a national debt.

The natural price of corn, you say, is its price in labour; if, then, its cost in labour is higher in this country than in other countries, will not its money price be also higher?—Yes; that is the advantage of growing it here; it is by that our people maintain themselves.

Is it not desirable, that each country should produce that commodity which can be produced at the cheapest natural price, and exchange it for any other which it may want?—It may appear to be so in theory, but to my comprehension, the thing is utterly impracticable.

If all trades were free, excepting one trade, the clothiers for example, which should be protected by duties on importation, would not the community be all injured by the higher price of cloth, which might be the effect of such protection?—I do not precisely understand what is meant by free trade.

Supposing that every man was free to import or to export whatever commodity he pleased, without any duty whatever?—I cannot form any idea of such a state of society.

You have spoken of manufacturers being protected; what did you mean by manufacturers being protected?—I meant, that they had prohibitory duties on the import of similar commodities to those which they made from foreign countries.

Supposing

Supposing then the clothiers only to be protected by such a prohibitory duty, and the price of cloth in consequence to be higher than it would otherwise have been, would not the community be all losers by such higher price?—I am not aware that they would; every man who wore a coat would pay more money for it, certainly.

So far as he paid more money for it he would be injured?—I am not aware of that, that does not follow, according to my comprehension, particularly if the clothing manufactory should find employment and subsistence for the majority of the nation; I should think that a great advantage.

The Committee want specifically to know, whether the higher price which the consumer would be obliged to pay for his cloth, in consequence of the manufacturer being so protected, would or would not be an injury to him?—Certainly not; if the clothing manufactory furnished the employment and subsistence of a large majority of the nation.

Without considering whether the clothier could or could not employ a larger number of persons, the question asked is, whether the protection granted in his favour is not an injury to the rest of the community?—I am not prepared to say that it is.

You think then it is not?—I am not prepared to say that it is.

Then if those protections were extended first to the cotton manufacture, then to the iron manufacture, then to the hardware manufacture, in neither case would it be injurious to the consumer?—I apprehend they are all protected already.

What would you advise if you had to make a law upon the subject?—To make them all equal in protection.

But you have not yet answered the question, whether those protections would be injurious to the rest of the community?—Not if they were all equal.

But supposing them not all equal, but given to three or four trades only?—I should think them then unequal and unjust.

Would they be injurious to the community?—That would depend upon their extent.

Would one be injurious?—It depends entirely upon its extent.

What number, in your opinion, would be injurious?—In my opinion, it would depend upon the extent of the article so protected; a protection to the making of hats or fans, or any thing else trifling, would not be noticed, but when you come to apply the principles, which would be very good in theory on so slight an article as that, to the growth of corn, it is not so.

Would those protections increase the price of the articles protected?—It would; it would amount to a monopoly price then.

Would those high prices be injurious to the community?—The injury would depend, in my opinion, upon the extent of the thing grown.

The greater the extent, the greater the injury would be?—That would depend upon whether it rendered subsistence to the country.

Upon what principle, excepting that those protections are injurious to the consumer, can you ask for protection to the agriculturist?—Because it is impossible to grow grain without; we are placed in the situation of a man paying duties of customs and excise and tolerating smuggling in the same market; upon that principle and none other.

You were questioned as to the possibility of capital being withdrawn from agriculture. If capital be withdrawn to any very great extent from agriculture, which it appears is too unprofitable a speculation at this moment, do you think that the labourers at present employed in agriculture, could easily be employed for the general purposes of manufactures?—Oh, certainly not; they are unfit for the purpose in the first place, and there is no employment in the second.

In that case, the manufacturers would be, to a certain degree, in the same state, with respect to the compulsory maintenance of a superabundant population, that the proprietors of land are now?—I fear not; they would come to the land.

At the time oats were imported in November last, can you form any opinion as to the quantity that there were on hand?—No, I cannot; Mr. Harvey can inform you.

If capital from land was very extensively withdrawn, poor rates must in fact cease, because there would be no body to pay the poor?—Certainly.

Mr. Wm. Stickney, again Called in; and Examined.

YOU wish to correct some part of your evidence of the other day?—Yes; I thought I did not give you sufficient evidence, as to the question concerning the state of the labouring class. I am apprehensive, that the evidence which I gave you, relative

Mr.
William Stickney.
(30 March.)

relative to the condition of the labouring class, and that of the farmer as connected with labour, is very far short of describing their condition, as it really is. I stated, that we preferred employing the labourers, to that of relieving them altogether from the poor's rates, without work. It should be understood from this, that we expend a large sum of money in unprofitable labour, which, as an expenditure, might very justly be added to the poor's rate; for example, I pay about 100 *l.* per annum, as my poor rate; I expend about 200 *l.* per annum in labour more than I should do, if I was not disposed to accommodate the labourers and relieve the parish. I consider that 100 *l.* of this expenditure is repaid me by the benefit which I derive from their labour, and that the other 100 *l.* is an entire loss, and might, with propriety, be added to my expenditure on account of the poor. And it is my opinion, that, enormous as the poor rates are, that in farming districts, a great addition might be made thereto, by money expended in this way.

Lunæ, 2^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Charles Parker;

Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
Charles Parker.
(2 April.)

WHAT is your profession?—I am in the shipping trade, coal trade, beer trade, and general trade, at Colchester.

A general merchant?—Yes; a dealer in coals, grain, beer, and various things.

Have you any thing to state to the Committee, as to the state of your trade?—I have just drawn from my books some few observations; I am in the habit of shipping for other people as well as myself; a common carrier I may be called. From Christmas 1818 to Christmas 1819, I shipped from the port of Colchester to London, 4,428 quarters of corn, malt excepted, wheat, beans, oats, &c. From Christmas 1819 to Christmas 1820, I shipped 1,609 quarters only, making a difference of about two-thirds decrease; and from Christmas 1819 to Christmas 1820, I shipped from London to Colchester, 3,955 quarters of corn. From Christmas 1819 to Christmas 1820, I had 594 only, which is a declension of five-sixths. I am also in the habit of selling London porter. From Christmas 1817 to Christmas 1818, the amount of my account was 3,844 *l.*; from Christmas 1818 to Christmas 1819, 3,406 *l.*; from Christmas 1819 to last Christmas, 2,114 *l.* You see a very regular declension there. I also, this season, since Michaelmas, have bought in Colchester market, about 1,000 quarters of barley; and I should think that may take not less than ninety waggons to bring it down; and from a coal yard which is open, I only sent out three chaldron and a half of coals in back carriage, and, generally speaking, seven waggons out of nine before went back with coals.

To what do you attribute that declension in the return of coals?—I cannot say, unless the farmers cannot buy it.

Do the same farmers still come for coals?—I never knew an instance before this, of so many waggons coming, and only taking three chaldron and a half of coals.

Where do you get your coals from?—Sunderland and Newcastle.

Those persons did not purchase their coals elsewhere?—No; they did not.

Did it fall within your own knowledge, that fewer coals had been burned in those last years by farmers, than at former periods?—Fewer coals have been taken by the farmers from Colchester.

Do you know whether fewer have been burnt; might they not have got them from other places?—I do not know; if they came to Colchester with a load of corn, they generally took back coals.

Could they not have got them from any other place?—No; if they came to my yard they generally took coals, and did not go elsewhere for them.

Is there any other person in Colchester in your line of business?—Yes, a great many.

Then

Then it is impossible for you to know, whether the deficiency of your sales may not have been made up by an augmented sale on the part of those persons?—That I cannot speak to; but those waggons that did come to my yard, did not load back at any other yard; that I am sure of.

To what places do you export this corn?—The corn is malted, and will, by and by, be brought to London; not at present.

When you say, you exported in Christmas 1819, 4,428 quarters of corn, and only 1,609 in the year ending Christmas 1820; the Committee want to know, to what places that corn was exported?—It was brought from Colchester to London, and sold at Mark-lane.

Are the Committee to understand, that corn comes from Colchester to London, and also goes from London to Colchester?—Yes, that is very frequently the case; a great many oats have been brought down London, and bought by merchants in Colchester, and sold to farmers in the neighbourhood.

Have you any thing you wish to state to the Committee, as to the distresses of the farmers?—I consider a great part of this arises from that.

Have you any other proofs of the distress of the farmers, except those which you have laid before the Committee?—No; this is the declension in my business. I have also an account here, from the Custom House of Colchester, of corn, coals and wool, shipped there, if it is of any use to the Committee.

That is taken from the Custom House books?—Yes, it is.

[It was delivered in and read, as follows:]

Port of COLCHESTER. CORN shipped at this port in the last four years.

	Quarters.
1817 - - - Wheat, barley, malt, rye, oats, peas and beans	81,442
1818 - - - Same articles - - - - -	60,389
1819 - - - Same articles - - - - -	51,480
1820 - - - Same articles - - - - -	54,463
	<u>247,774</u>

WOOL shipped in the same period.

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.
1817 - - - 1,122 cloths - - - - -	3,959	1	23
1818 - - - 708 ditto - - - - -	2,434	1	2
1819 - - - 854 ditto - - - - -	3,040	0	22
1820 - - - 601 ditto - - - - -	2,146	3	9
	<u>11,580</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>

COAL imported in the same period.

	Chaldrons.	Bushels.
1817 - - - - -	22,439	18
1818 - - - - -	23,422	22
1819 - - - - -	20,959	23
1820 - - - - -	25,383	18
	<u>92,205</u>	<u>9</u>

Custom House, }
31st March 1821. }

(Signed) Tho^s Tayspill, Collector.

You have stated a gradual decrease in the quantity of porter sold by you, in the course of your trade; are you aware, that the deficiency has been made up by beer of a different description, brewed at home, or by the brewers in the country?—I do not know; but it may be made up by some other resource; but I cannot speak to it, any further than my own account goes.

Do you find more difficulty in getting payment now from farmers, than you did three years ago?—I never found so much difficulty in collecting money, as I did the very last week I went from home (last Saturday), round the neighbourhood, and a good part of Suffolk; and amongst the farmers particularly I found more complaint, than with any other class of people I am concerned with.

Mr.
Charles Parker.

(2 April.)

Have you then more money due to you now from the farmers, than in former times?—I have, certainly, a great deal more.

How many bankers are there at Colchester?—Two.

Do they give the same facilities which they did previous to 1819?—No, they do not.

If you have undoubted security to offer them, such as bills of exchange or notes of hand, do they discount them as freely as formerly?—I have never had them refuse discounting me a bill; but I know many cases where it has been refused.

In the cases where it has been refused, has it arisen from a want of confidence in the security offered for discount?—I should imagine it was from some want of confidence in the parties who tender those bills.

Do you attribute any part of the fall in the price of grain, to the diminished quantity of bank notes in circulation?—No question about that; there cannot be so much money in circulation, as when corn was at a higher figure.

You have stated, that during the last year, you have sold much fewer coals than usual?—No, I do not say that; only I was saying in this very instance, where I had not had less than ninety waggons with corn, only three chaldron and a half of coals were taken back.

You have no reason to suppose there is any diminished consumption of coals in your neighbourhood?—No; my coal trade is larger; I am getting more custom, as it were.

By this account, it appears that the consumption of coals is considerably greater this year than in any of the four preceding years?—Very likely it may.

That is correct?—That account is, certainly.

The fact is correct?—Yes.

Then do you mean to state to this Committee, that from your observation, it is your opinion, that the quantity of coals consumed by the farmers, is diminished?—I should imagine it is, by the farmers; the farmers consumption I have no doubt is; I dare say they are burning wood, and making all the shifts they can, without burning coal; more particularly, when I looked over my book, and saw only three chaldrons and a half taken from my yard by ninety waggons that brought corn.

What do the farmers substitute for coal, in your apprehension?—I should imagine wood; they are not in a country where they can get any peat or turf.

Then it results from your account, that if the farmers burn fewer coals than they had done before, other classes must consume more, seeing that a greater quantity is imported into Colchester?—You will see that coals have been increasing in every port, because there is less to substitute for coals; I dare say there is not a port you can go to, scarcely, but you will find coals an increasing article.

It is impossible to deny, that if the farmers have consumed fewer coals this year than in former years, other classes must have consumed more, as the whole quantity seems to be larger?—It seems to be larger.

Are you a ship owner?—Yes; I have five ships of my own.

Do you mean to say, that your trade is falling off generally?—So much so, that here is the account I have just spoken to, which has a very great falling off; last year I laid two vessels by all the summer; I have laid one by for these two months now; and I dare say before a fortnight is over, I shall lay another by.

Your five vessels are not in employ now?—No; I have laid one by two months, and I think I shall lay another by in less than two weeks; the markets are so bad now, we cannot buy corn in the country to send up to London, as we used to do; that is a very great hardship.

Was the corn imported into Colchester, and exported out of Colchester, corn of the same description?—No; corn grown about Colchester, and brought there to ship.

But the question is, whether the corn shipped from Colchester, and that imported into Colchester, was the same description of corn?—No; a good deal of it was corn that was brought in before the gates were locked; a good deal of it was foreign corn, brought down; foreign wheat and a great many oats; a vast quantity of Irish oats.

Mr. John Rous; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
John Rous.

(2 April.)

WHAT are you?—An ironmonger, at Colchester.

Will you have the goodness to state to the Committee, what you know as to the situation of the trade of Colchester now?—I took the business in 1813; a business that had been established by my father, for fifty years; and since 1813, there has been

been a gradual decline of business, inasmuch as I think, at the present moment, one half, at least, has been declining.

Do you mean your own business, or the business of others?—I mean my own business, and others in connection with myself; I saw Mr. Wallis and Mr. Catchbull, who are both ironmongers, and they say, the decline of their business is the same as my own.

Are there any other ironmongers?—Yes; two more, but they do not do the business that they did.

And you think they are all in the same state of distress?—Yes.

And that, you think, has declined one half, since you began business?—Yes; my returns are not so much by 1,000 *l.* a-year, as they were then.

Can you state the cause of that declension?—It is, undoubtedly, in consequence of agriculturists not being able to purchase the commodities which they sell; it used to be a regular thing, at my shop, in 1813, 1814 and 1815, that I used to take from six to seven or eight pounds, at my shop, on a Saturday, from the farmers; and now we do not take twenty shillings of a Saturday, one Saturday with another; I have made a particular minute of my concerns, throughout the different years, from my books.

How are your bills paid by the farmers now?—I have but little due from the farmers, for the farmers, in general, used to pay in ready money, that we have very little upon our books.

Your farmers pay you ready money?—Yes, generally; I am much more injured by the blacksmiths and wheelwrights, who cannot get their money from the farmers.

What are the description of commodities you sell on a Saturday to your customers?—Generally, spades and shovels, plough wheels, and locks of all descriptions.

Has there been any considerable fall in the prices of these articles since 1813?—Yes, there has; I should think a depression since 1813 of from $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 per cent.

Upon the trade price?—Yes.

Has the fall been occasioned by the badness of the trade, or by the less expensive mode of manufacturing those commodities?—Not altogether the less expensive mode of manufacturing, but a reduction in the article itself; for English iron has been brought to the market at a much less price than the manufacturer could make it.

Then, in estimating the difference in the sum of money which you now receive, and which you did receive in 1813, ought you not to allow something for the difference in price between the commodities now and then?—Most undoubtedly I ought, and I have made that from 15 to $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; but still there is a falling off from 800 *l.* to 1,000 *l.* a-year return.

When you state a falling off, is it in the quantity of articles sold, or in the price?—In the quantity.

And is it general?—That is general; I am not a single instance in the town of Colchester; and before I received the summons to attend this Committee, I waited on some of my neighbours and friends, and inquired their situation, and I think I may tell you, if you were to send to every tradesman in Colchester, you would not find ten living by the profits of their trade.

What kind of goods do you sell?—I am a general ironmonger.

What sort of iron do you use?—We buy our goods manufactured, all of British iron, I believe; there are some few articles we deal in, such as sickles and scythes, which are manufactured from foreign iron and steel.

Then since the year 1813, your trade has been in a gradual state of decline?—Yes.

In what proportion have your profits diminished during that period?—Nearly seven and a half per cent; for we now find it general, if a customer comes to the shop, he will not buy at the fair price which the goods are regularly marked at, but they must have an abatement to draw their money from their pockets.

In what proportion have your household expenses and the expenses of your trade diminished in that period of time?—With regard to my household expenses, I have the good fortune to have a woman who takes every possible care, and we have been as frugal as any persons can be, and therefore I cannot reduce my expenses; we have had an increase of poor rates ever since. We have been relieved by the property tax.

Then your expenses have not been diminished by the lowering the prices of all the articles of consumption?—I have no doubt, but the lowering the price of bread must have diminished my expenses, with regard to the maintenance of my family; but it bears no sort of proportion to the want of trade.

Then, as your profits have diminished, and you have stated, that your expenses could not be diminished, from what other source have you been enabled to supply the deficiency?—I have been in no way enabled to supply the deficiency, but by the loss of real capital.

Have you any reason to think, that fewer spades, scythes, and other articles of that

Mr.
John Rous.

(2 April.)

that kind which you sell, are now used by farmers than there were in the year 1813?—I am quite confident of that; I never live a week without having labourers come to my shop, who tell me they want a spade or shovel, but they have not the money to buy it with. I used to be in the habit of giving an order for 30 dozen of spades and shovels at a time, and now one third of the quantity will do.

Do you think that the agriculture of the country is reduced within that period?—I do not exactly understand that question.

Mr. John Metcalfe; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
John Metcalfe.

(2 April.)

DO you live at Colchester?—I do.

What trade are you?—I am a woollen-draper and a wool-grower; I buy wool of the driers.

Is there any great difference in your trade as a woollen-draper within these last few years?—In the last three years it has declined more than one-third.

In the sale of your woollen cloths?—Yes; I sell nothing but woollen cloths; not retail.

Can you tell the Committee to what that is to be attributed?—It is every evident what it is to be attributed to; there is no return of money; there is no one to lay out money with.

The farmers do not frequent your shop so much as they used to do?—Certainly not; they come in their usual way to sell their wool; but they are not buyers of any cloth of me, as they used to be.

And from those to whom you still sell cloth, do you get your money as readily as you used to do?—Certainly not.

Do you know, of your own knowledge, that there is great stagnation of trade at Colchester, in consequence of the farmers not having money to spend in the shops?—There certainly is.

Among your customers, do you find that there is a greater portion of distress amongst those who are farmers, or those who are in other occupations?—Those of other occupations are in the same distress; for the gentlemen who depend upon the rents cannot get them, and many other persons, who do not depend on farmers, where their rents are not settled, cannot pay others.

Upon whom do you mainly depend for the support of your trade in Colchester?—The farmers and the neighbouring gentlemen; we have not many gentlemen of fortune in our neighbourhood.

Have you had a meeting of tradesmen in Colchester, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the town?—We have, at the Three Cups, at Colchester.

What was the result?—The result of that meeting was, to consider whether it would be requisite to petition Parliament for the relief of the agriculturist and the tradesmen of the town; I do not mean the farmers, for we are as much depressed as the farmers are.

Had you a similar meeting in the year 1815, to petition against the corn law, which was then in agitation?—We had no petition against the corn law; I signed a petition for a corn bill myself, in the year 1815.

Then you suppose, that if any relief could be given to the agriculturist, you would reap the benefit of it?—Most unquestionably; if half our returns were taken away, or three parts of them, every one must feel it.

Your orders to the manufacturers, of whom you used to buy your goods, must depend on the quantity of materials you sell to the farmers and gentlemen around, on whom you mainly depend for support?—Yes.

You apportion your orders to the manufacturers to the quantity such customers can purchase of you?—Yes; I can assure you, that my orders to the manufacturers in Yorkshire and Wiltshire, have half diminished within these last two years; but I will give a reason for that; I said, in the first part of my examination, that one-third of my business had fallen off, and from the pressure and fear of the times, I have not given orders so freely as I before did.

Has the price of your goods fallen within these four years?—They have fallen in some measure, but not so much in proportion as the raw material, namely, the wool; they have fallen, perhaps, as much as from ten to twelve per cent.

You mean, by that, that the price you pay to the manufacturer, is ten or twelve per cent lower?—Yes.

But the fall has only been in proportion to the raw material from which the goods are made?—Not nearly in proportion.

The manufacturer then, must be making very large profits by his trade?—If he could find a sale; but, unfortunately, he cannot find a sale for half his goods.

But

But on the quantity for which he does find a sale, he must be getting unusual profits?—I think so, from the price we are selling the raw material at; but I have no return at the moment, as I am not a manufacturer.

Is there any foreign wool mixed with the manufactures?—That I cannot tell; the Spanish wool has fallen as much in proportion as the British wool.

Do you know whether the price for manufacturing labour has fallen since the fall in the price of the necessaries of life?—From what I have heard from the manufacturers, I believe not; the manufacturers tell me they cannot fall the wages, for they cannot give them half employ; I employ a number of men at home, and they used to earn thirty shillings a week, and now they have got down to twenty shillings and ten shillings; the having a cheap loaf to them is no object, for they have no money to buy it.

A part of your loss is compensated by the cheaper price of labour?—I really do not understand that question.

You state to the Committee, that you pay your labourers less now?—No; I say we pay them the same, if our labourers work by the piece; and in former times they could earn thirty shillings a-week.

Has a greater decrease in your trade taken place in the last year, than in the preceding two years?—It has.

Considerably?—I think it has, considerably; more than a third from 1817 up to the present time.

Do you mean in the last year?—In the last quarter it has; but this is a dull quarter, it is exceedingly dull, and the trade is reduced considerably; if I were to say nearly half, I should be right for this last quarter.

You have stated, that you are a purchaser of wool; does the farmer find any difficulty of disposing of that portion of his produce?—Very great difficulty.

In what manner do you pay the farmer for the purchases you make of his wool?—As soon as it is weighed.

Then what do you mean to state, as the difficulty which the farmer meets with in selling his wool; are you not always a purchaser at the price?—No, not as I used; I have now a warehouse full of wool, and I cannot sell it, and my capital is laid out.

If that is your situation, are there not other persons who are constantly buyers of wool in the market?—I do not think there are at present, nor have there been for a very long time past.

When such stagnation takes place, is not the consequence a fall in the price of wool?—There certainly is a fall in it.

To whom do you dispose of the wool you so purchase?—The manufacturers and woolstaplers.

Are not these manufacturers and woolstaplers constantly purchasing at the price of the market?—They are not constantly purchasing of me; I had not a manufacturer but one, or a Yorkshire stapler, during all this whole year, although I have sold to the London market.

Then the Committee are to understand, you are not able to dispose of that wool which you now have in your warehouse?—Yes, and many other people beside myself, in the neighbourhood.

Have you more than one crop of wool on hand?—I have sold several to different merchants.

Have you more on hand now than usual?—No, I think I have much about the same that I generally have, perhaps rather more; but I should have had more, but I am forced to sell at a loss.

Has your trade been a good or a bad one within the last four years?—It has been a bad one for the last three years, since the year 1817.

Then upon the whole, the profits of your trade for the last three years, have been upon the decline?—Certainly.

Have the expenses of your establishment, household and otherwise, been diminished during that period of time?—Yes, I think so; because the bread and meat and corn are cheaper than it was at that time; the corn that I keep my horses on.

Do you apprehend that the diminution of expense has been equal to the diminution of your profit?—No, certainly not.

If your trade should become again a brisk trade, shall you not expect, that with the present price of necessaries, the price of labour will very considerably fall?—I think it may fall, but not considerably; it ought to fall in proportion.

The reason that the price of labour has not now fallen with the price of necessaries is, because you have not full work for your labourers; therefore, if you had full work for your labourers, you could now diminish their wages?—I think I could.

You have stated, that the fall in the price of the articles from the manufacturers

Mr.
John Metcalfe.

(2 April.)

to you was 10 per cent; what is the proportion of the fall in the retail price?—I think we sell it at more than a proportion to that.

Have the necessaries in general that labourers consume, fallen in the same proportion with bread-corn?—No, I should think they have not; the fact is, there have been no middle priced things selling, for the want of the labourer having money to buy, such as our British wools.

Has it occurred to you, in the course of your trade, to find it convenient to apply to your bankers for pecuniary aid;—Yes, it has for a certain time.

Do you find any difference now in the facilities which you have received from your bankers, in that respect, from what you were in the practice of receiving three years ago?—Of course, they are curtailing all the accounts they can.

Have the poor rates increased very much in Colchester?—My predecessor, where I live, did not pay any; and now they have got to from 3 s. 6 d. to 4 s. in the pound.

Within about what period?—Within about 30 or 40 years, in the parish of St. Runwalls.

How much have the poor rates risen within the last six years?—I am sorry to say, I cannot tell you; for I have not attended the parish business as I ought to have done, like a great many more of the parishioners; perhaps 2 s. or 2 s. 6 d.

Do you remember when the last rise took place?—I think it was about 1818.

What were they then?—I think they rose 6 d. or 1 s. in the pound; I really cannot tell.

What is the condition of your labourers, in respect to diet, better or worse, comparing their state when trade was brisk, with its present state of stagnation?—If they have no money to buy any thing, their diet must be very small indeed.

Then their diet is worse now than it was?—Certainly; I mean with my journeymen.

In what respect is their diet worse?—They have not the money to buy their provision with, therefore their diet must be worse.

What articles of life were they in the habit of purchasing, from which they now abstain?—I cannot tell; they live, of course, on bread and meat, and butter and sugar, and all those sort of things, the necessaries of life.

Do you imagine that they purchase those articles as freely now as formerly?—They have not the money to purchase them with; if I could give them full employment, they would be better off.

Are your labourers in the habit of drinking beer?—They drink what they buy; I do not give them any.

Were you never in the habit of giving them porter?—No, never, nor beer.

Do you suppose they consume the same quantity of beer they did formerly?—I really cannot tell; but I should think not; I have nothing to do with my journeymen after they leave my shop; I cannot tell how they employ their money, or what they do with it.

[The Chairman stated, that he wished to put in an Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Guardians of the Poor, within the hundred of Blything, in the county of Suffolk, made on the 2d of September 1817.]

[It was delivered in and read, as follows:]

“A STATEMENT made under the Directors and Guardians of the Poor, for forty-four parishes, within the hundred of Blything, in the eastern part of the county of Suffolk, showing the amount paid for able workmen unemployed, in seven years, namely, from Easter 1810 to 1817, the time the accounts were made up:

		£.	s.	d.
From Easter 1810 to Midsummer	- -	0	0	0
— Michaelmas	- -	0	18	0
— Christmas -	- -	0	0	0
— Easter 1811	- -	0	5	0
		£.	1	3 0
From Easter 1811 to Midsummer	- -	0	0	0
— Michaelmas	- -	0	0	0
— Christmas -	- -	0	0	0
— Easter 1812	- -	1	12	0
		£.	1	12 0

(continued.)

STATEMENT—continued.

Mr.
John Metcalfe.

(2 April.)

			£.	s.	d.	
From Easter 1812 to Midsummer	-	-	-	1	3	0
— Michaelmas	-	-	-	0	12	0
— Christmas -	-	-	-	0	6	0
— Easter 1813	-	-	-	0	19	0
			£.	3	0	0
From Easter 1813 to Midsummer	-	-	-	1	3	9
— Michaelmas	-	-	-	0	0	0
— Christmas -	-	-	-	0	0	0
— Easter 1814	-	-	-	5	3	0
			£.	6	6	9
From Easter 1814 to Midsummer	-	-	-	0	0	0
— Michaelmas	-	-	-	0	6	0
— Christmas -	-	-	-	0	0	0
— Easter 1815	-	-	-	5	12	6
			£.	5	18	6
From Easter 1815 to Midsummer	-	-	-	7	8	6
— Michaelmas	-	-	-	0	0	0
— Christmas -	-	-	-	96	19	3
— Easter 1816	-	-	-	1,279	15	6
			£.	1,384	15	3
From Easter 1816 to Midsummer	-	-	-	1,543	4	7
— Michaelmas	-	-	-	834	13	8
— Christmas -	-	-	-	35	13	7
— Easter 1817	-	-	-	291	5	5
			£.	2,704	17	3"

Would you be so good as to account for the very great increase in the quarter ending Easter 1816; seeing that at Christmas it was 96*l.* within a few shillings, and at that period it was 1,279*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*?—Because of the increase of the number of persons thrown out of employment.

Were they agricultural labourers, or otherwise?—Entirely agricultural.

They continued out of employment up to Midsummer 1816?—You must consider how long they continued out of employment by the paper put in, showing the relief given.

By this account it appears that the sum expended from Michaelmas to Christmas was reduced to 35*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*; are the Committee to conclude, that at the latter period the people were again all employed?—I wish to state to this Committee, under whose directions this report from which the extracts I have given in were made, was prepared: It was prepared under the direction of seven gentlemen, who were acting directors in the hundred of Blything; they were seven gentlemen picked out from twenty-four gentlemen who acted in that hundred, as the best qualified to make out an accurate account of the expenditure for the hundred, in the maintenance of the poor, as a Committee.

During the period when the poor received this great sum for their relief, had they any occupation whatever provided for them?—A great many of them were set to work on the roads, and very little other employment.

Do you happen to know how many persons were so thrown out of employment?—No; I cannot state the number exactly.

Do you know, whether the results were similar to these in the neighbouring parishes?—This is an incorporated hundred; and in the adjoining parishes which are not incorporated with us they are not incorporated at all; they are separate parishes entirely; here there are forty-four parishes and four hamlets, contained under a local Act of Parliament.

Do you happen to know, whether the result was the same in the parishes adjoining?—I believe they increased in a much greater proportion, because I believe that the poor are much better managed in these incorporated hundreds than they are in the neighbouring hundreds, where they are not incorporated.

Mr. John Baker Edmonds; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
John B. Edmonds.

(2 April.)

WHERE do you reside?—At South Petherton, in Somersetshire.

Are you a farmer?—Yes.

Have you any statement to give in to the Committee, or do you wish to be examined by questions?—I wish to be examined by questions; I have committed my thoughts partly to writing.

You have not made any regular statement?—Yes, I have.

Does that statement contain the expenditure and receipts of your farm for any given period?—Three years.

Read the statement, if you please?—I have farmed my estate thirty years, and returned debtor and creditor account of the same during the year 1809, which appears to me a fair average year; agricultural produce then sold well; I have also given a return of the same estate for the years 1819 and 1820, when, from declining prices, evident loss is apparent; my arable land in South Petherton, is of the best quality, a rich sandy loam, easily worked, and if well managed, capable of growing crops of every description, as corn, hemp, flax, turnips and grasses; hemp is often sown as the best preparatory crop for wheat, and a course of husbandry much adopted in this species of land, and during the war gave a fair profit; but the growth has lessened by the late importations of foreign hemp, which has been sold at prices less than it can be grown under the existing state of taxation in this country; others, as also myself, now grow a little, though at a loss, to employ the poor in the winter, as it gives work and fuel to the aged and infirm; the latter is obtained by the scale or internal substance of the hemp, when the skin or valuable part is taken off; flax has been grown in considerable quantities in the neighbourhood; but this crop is capable of being grown on various and inferior sorts of land, which is not the case with hemp; both are now equally reduced in their growth, for the want of a protection to the extent of a fair remunerating price; the price of hemp has lately been less than 9 s. per weight of 30 lbs. which should be at least 12 s.; flax is reduced to 4 s. 6 d. and 5 s. per dozen, which ought to be about 7 s. for dew ripe, and 8 s. for watered. A general, and not a partial protection, is absolutely requisite, to enable the country to pay the present high taxes; the average prices set by the corn bill, is fully adequate, provided it could be brought to those averages, but the system is so formed, that they must be lower, and cannot be but a trifle higher, and which has the effect of opening the ports and admitting such quantities, as again lowers the markets for one or two years; wool, of the inferior sorts, is sufficiently protected by the duty of 6 d. per lb.; but hides, tallow, butter, cheese, hemp and flax, are cut down by foreign importation.

[The following statements were delivered in, and read:]

N^o 1.—LANDS occupied by J. B. EDMONDS, in the year 1809.

PROCEEDS from N^o 1.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
In South Petherton, 460 acres, at 50 s. per acre	1,150	—	—	1,957 dozens of flax, at 13 s. per dozen	1,272	1	—
Puckington and Stocklinch, 70 acres at 30 s. per acre	105	—	—	Tow from the same	70	—	—
North Braden, Isle Abbotts, and Ilton, 130 acres at 40 s. per acre	260	—	—	108 weights of hemp, at 19 s. per weight	102	12	—
South Braden, 60 acres at 20 s. per acre	60	—	—	Amount of wheat sold to the miller, at 14 s. 15 s. and 16 s. 6 d. per bushel	1,248	10	—
Total amount of rent	1,575	—	—	800 bushels d ^o sold to labourers, at 8 s. per bushel	320	—	—
Tithes compounded for	166	—	—	Amount of fat stock sold	466	—	—
Labourers wages	710	—	—	300 bushels of beans, at 8 s. per bushel	120	—	—
Blacksmith's bill	67	—	—	Rent of 17 cows, at 14 l. each	238	—	—
Carpenter's d ^o	60	—	—	104 bushels of wheat, made use of in the house, at 15 s. per bushel	78	—	—
Harness-maker's d ^o	25	10	—	Amount of wool sold, at 20 d. per lb.	90	1	8
Lime, woollen rags, and horn shavings	110	—	—				
Seed corn	220	—	—				
Flax and hemp seed	77	—	—				
Lambs purchased	75	12	—				
Assessed taxes	26	14	—				
Tenants property tax	86	5	—				
Poor rates, church and highway d ^o	65	16	—				
Profit	740	7	8				
	£.	4,005	4 8		£.	4,005	4 8

I took 1809 for an average; in 1808, sold my hemp for 26 s. per weight; in 1810, 16 s. per weight. 1808, my flax at 16 s. per dozen; 1810, at 10 s. 6 d. per dozen. 1808, wheat at 11 s. 3 d.; 1810, at 14 s. per bushel.

N^o 2.—LANDS occupied by J. B. EDMONDS, in the year 1819.

PROCEEDS from N^o 2.

	£.	s.	d.
The same as noted in N ^o 1, at a reduced rent of 20 per cent per annum - - -	1,260	—	—
Mrs. Donistropes, at Braden - - -	100	—	—
Miss Wheller's, at Puckington - - -	50	—	—
Amount of rent - - -	1,410	—	—
Tithes compounded for - - -	272	18	—
Labourers wages - - -	980	—	—
Blacksmith's bill - - -	67	18	—
Carpenter's d ^o - - -	39	12	—
Harness-maker's d ^o - - -	22	3	—
Lime, woollen rags, and horn shavings - - -	99	7	6
Seed corn - - -	72	—	—
Flax seed - - -	24	15	—
Assessed taxes - - -	36	8	—
Poor rates, church and highway d ^o - - -	256	15	—
£.	3,281	16	6

	£.	s.	d.
1,268 dozens of flax, at 6s. per dozen - -	380	8	—
200 - - d ^o - - at 7s. - d ^o - -	70	—	—
Tow from the same - - -	18	6	9
Amount of wheat sold to the miller, at 8s. 6d. 8s. 9d. 9s. and 9s. 3d. per bushel -	628	3	—
720 bushels sold to labourers, at 8s. per bushel -	288	—	—
104 bushels d ^o made use of in house, at 9s. per bushel - - -	46	16	—
Amount of beans sold at different prices -	124	—	—
Fat stock sold - - -	605	5	—
Rent of 12 cows, at 10l. each - - -	120	—	—
4 poor oxen sold - - -	102	—	—
Amount of wool sold, at 14d. per lb. -	123	16	—
Oats - - -	10	—	—
Rent of potato land from poor people -	83	—	—
Loss - - -	682	1	9
£.	3,281	16	6

N^o 3.—LANDS occupied by J. B. EDMONDS, in the year 1820.

PROCEEDS from N^o 3.

	£.	s.	d.
The same as noted in N ^o 2 - - -	1,410	—	—
Hele Farm, in South Petherton, 185 acres, at 40s. per acre - - -	370	—	—
Total amount of rent - - -	1,780	—	—
Tithes compounded for - - -	235	—	—
Labourers wages - - -	1,083	—	—
Blacksmith's bill - - -	91	—	—
Carpenter's d ^o - - -	70	10	—
Harness-maker's d ^o - - -	38	8	—
Lime, woollen rags, and horn shavings - - -	67	—	—
Seed corn - - -	83	14	—
Flax and hemp seed - - -	10	4	—
Assessed taxes - - -	36	8	—
Poor rates, church and highway d ^o - - -	235	13	—
Salt for manure, 20 cwt. - - -	2	10	—
£.	3,733	7	—

	£.	s.	d.
197 dozens of flax, at 6s. per dozen - -	59	2	—
479 dozens - d ^o - at 4s. 9d. d ^o - -	112	16	3
300 dozens - d ^o - at 5s. - d ^o - -	75	—	—
Amount of wheat sold to the miller, at 7s. and 7s. 6d. per bushel - - -	719	19	—
1,820 bushels of wheat not yet sold, at 7s. per bushel - - -	448	—	—
Amount of beans sold at 4s. 6d. and 4s. 9d. -	112	10	—
400 bushels not yet sold, at 4s. per bushel -	80	—	—
120 bushels of flax-seed, at 8s. per bushel -	48	—	—
Amount oats sold - - -	35	—	—
22 packs of flax not yet sold, at 5l. - -	110	—	—
Fat stock sold - - -	501	—	—
Rent of 31 cows, at 10l. each - - -	310	—	—
Amount of wool sold, at 14d. per lb. - -	119	—	—
30 weights of hemp, at 10s. 6d. per weight -	15	15	—
361 bushels of wheat sold to labourers, at 7s. -	128	7	—
Rent of potato land from poor people -	80	—	—
30 bushels of pease, at 5s. per bushel -	7	10	—
Loss - - -	771	7	9
£.	3,733	7	—

I have not charged any thing for turnpikes and market expenses, as it was never booked nor taken notice of; barley and apples, as the produce of both have been consumed by my labourers in beer and cider, for the last twelve years; nor is there any notice taken for the interest on stock.

Are there many persons now out of employment in the county of Somerset?—Yes, there are some.

Your's is not a manufacturing part of the county?—No.

Purely agricultural?—We used to have a linen trade there, but it is much declining, in consequence of the cotton selling at so low a price, that the business is almost lost.

Are the agricultural labourers fully employed, with you, at this moment?—They are nearly so, at this moment.

Have their wages been decreased?—No; we pay the same wages now, as we did when corn sold at 20s. a bushel; but I always made it a point, to supply my work-people with corn at a reduced price; when corn was at 25s. a bushel, I sold it to my work-people at 8s. 6d.

What do you consider a remunerating price, for corn on your land?—Ten shillings a bushel; I should be always satisfied with 10s.; and if it sold at more, it would be an injury to the farmer, because he must increase his wages, and the poor rates would be increased.

In 1809, you paid 1,150l. rent, I see by this account?—It is my own estate.

What per centage do you charge upon your capital?—None at all in that statement.

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3 A

What

Mr.
John B. Edmonds.

(2 April.)

Mr.
John B. Edmonds.
(2 April.)

What was the price you gave for the land of which you are now speaking?—Some of that land I purchased at 100*l.* an acre; and 140*l.* an acre, for some of it.

In what year?—I am not certain; it was towards the latter part of the war.

Has it been within the last twenty years?—Yes.

Is it pasture land, chiefly, or arable?—More arable than pasture; about two-thirds arable.

Was it ever the practice in your neighbourhood, or in any part of Somersetshire with which you are acquainted, to apportion the wages of the labourers, according to the extent of each man's occupation?—No; some years we require more labour than others.

Generally speaking, have you a superabundant population in Somerset?—Yes, certainly; sometimes we have been obliged to send thirty or forty people at a time, to draw stones from a quarry in the winter time, even women; I have sent as many as thirty-five or forty people at a time.

What rate of wages can they earn, when at that work?—In that case, they were paid by the overseer.

What do you suppose they earn in the course of a day?—About a shilling.

What does a woman earn?—Eight-pence.

That is an insufficient rate of wages to both men and women; it is not a subsistence?—Certainly not.

Then do you supply the remainder of what is requisite for their maintenance, out of the poor rate?—No; they make it a point to give them wages sufficient to support them; some, perhaps, get fourteen or sixteen pence; it depends on the size of their families.

When they are at this work, they are not supposed to be employed the same number of hours during the day, as they would be if they were at a better species of employment?—The same hours, from six in the morning till six in the evening.

Do you mean, that they perform the same quantum of labour, receiving that reduced pay, that they would if they were employed in other ways?—Yes; we pay them the same wages at the quarry, as if they were at work on husbandry; but do not allow them any beer.

From what fund is the remainder of that sum taken?—The overseer pays those people, and sells the stones to neighbouring villages, for the repair of the roads.

But, in point of fact, it comes out of the parochial rate?—The overseer advances the money, sells those stones, and puts the money to the parish account again.

Does the sale of the stones repay the expense of the labour?—Yes, in part.

Does it more than pay the expense of the labour?—No; we are losers by it.

Are you the losers by it to any great extent?—We lose one half by it, perhaps; but it is better than letting them run about idle.

It appears by this statement, that your poor rate and church rate, in 1809, was 65*l.* 16*s.*; and in 1819, they were 256*l.* 19*s.*?—My estate was considerably increased in 1819.

Do you value your land higher in 1809 than in 1819?—Twenty per cent more.

How much is the difference in quantity?—I suppose 300 acres more; 500*l.* or 600*l.* a-year.

Supposing you had sold your wheat at ten shillings a bushel this year, and your other produce in proportion, should you then have had a profit, instead of a loss, upon your farm?—I expect I should.

What was the nature of your crop this year, throughout that district of Somersetshire, in quantity and quality?—It was good; we had a good crop of wheat.

Was it above an average crop?—No; about an average crop, I should think.

Both as to quality and quantity?—Yes; we had no reason to complain.

Has there been, to your knowledge, any foreign corn introduced into that part of the country?—I do not know that there has; there has been a report, that some has been brought through Guernsey; but I do not know it.

Do you drink cider generally in your country, or beer?—Cider; my work people drink 200 hogsheads a-year, or more.

Is the land as well farmed in your part of the country now, as it was two or three years ago?—Better; we have had more experience, we are better farmers than we were; we farm differently from what we did thirty years ago; we used to make summer fallows of our land then, and now we do not.

Can the farmers afford to spend as much money on their farms now, as they could thirty years ago?—They cannot, at this moment.

What did you pay your labourers per day, in 1809?—I paid the same then as I do

I do now, for I allow my people some land to grow sufficient potatoes for the consumption of their families; I never sold my wheat to them at more than eight shillings and sixpence a bushel; in 1809, I believe, I charged them eight shillings.

Your land is some of the best land in the county of Somerset?—I can venture to say, there is no land in Somerset more useful.

Your crops are alternately beans and wheat; beans and wheat, for a long time together?—We grow wheat once in three years; if it is grown oftener, it is not good farming.

What have you after your wheat?—Beans.

And what after your beans?—Flax, once in six years; and we grow between, turnips and clover.

Generally speaking, in what way is Somersetshire divided as to arable and pasture; what proportion does the arable bear to the pasture?—I suppose, in our neighbourhood, we have three-fourths arable, to take several parishes following.

Where should you say that the distress was most evident, upon the arable, or upon the pasture farm?—On the arable I should suppose, on account of the expenses being so great.

Was the last crop an abundant or a scanty crop?—The last crop was a good crop; I never wish to have a better.

Had you ever a better in the course of your life?—I do not recollect ever having a better; I have known as good, but never a better.

How was the crop of 1819?—Bad; I had about twelve bushels an acre, that year.

And how many bushels an acre did you estimate the last crop?—Nearly thirty, eight-and-twenty I should suppose.

What should you say was an average produce, comparing the last year with 1818?—1818 was a good year, but not quite so great as 1820.

Do you grow many turnips in your neighbourhood?—Yes.

What is the stock of turnips now?—I never had them better, but that is not the case in general through the country.

From your experience should you say, that a scanty crop, or an abundant crop, was most beneficial to a farmer?—An abundant crop, certainly.

The fall of the price of corn then, in your opinion, is not diminished in the same proportion as the quantity is increased.—Certainly; the better the crop, the cheaper we can afford to sell it.

In the years that you have had the most abundant crop, did you make the greatest profits, or in the years of deficient crops?—Surely when we have abundant crops, if we sell them at a reduced price, we get more than if we had a small crop, and sold at a higher price.

Do you remember any years in which the advantage derived from an excessive produce in one article, was not materially diminished by a corresponding deficiency in another; or rather, should you be able to state, that any year ever occurred to you, in which you had an advantageous crop in every species of corn?—Yes; I have known it once in my time.

Do you ever remember a year in which there was an equally good crop of every article on your farm?—Yes; I remember one year, it is many years ago; that has not been the case of late years; I recollect one year, nearly thirty years ago, we had every thing good.

What was your situation with respect to stock?—I do not recollect; we had every thing good; our seasons, till within the last year or two, have been very variable.

That was a solitary instance?—Yes, never but once, and that is nearly thirty years ago.

Have you the same amount of capital in your farm now, that you had two or three years ago?—Not the same in value, of course.

But the same in quantity?—Yes.

Is it more in quantity?—I cannot say; it is much the same, but it is my own estate, and I keep the estate as well stocked as I can, or we cannot pay our taxes; we pay our poor on Thursdays; and the overseer, several times lately, has been assisted by me with money; he has sent his assistant two days before, on the Tuesday and Wednesday, and has not collected 6 s. and has not had a pound bill to pay them on that morning, and I have been obliged to assist the overseer with money several times, for the payment of the poor.

Out of your own pocket?—Yes.

Mr.
John B. Edmonds.

(2 April.)

From your neighbours not having paid their rates?—No; not a shilling to be got; he was two days, one time, collecting 5 s. 6 d.

Are there many payers in the parish, besides yourself?—A hundred, I suppose, small payers.

And from those hundred payers, the overseer collected but 5 s. ?—I think it was 5 s. 6 d. he told me; I have assisted him several times lately, or else the poor must have gone without their money.

Has that happened within the last six months?—Several times within the last six months.

Have you an unusual number of poor now supported by the rates?—Yes.

Have they increased much within these three or four years?—Yes; we have paid more money for these three or four years.

Has any land been sold in your neighbourhood lately?—I have had sales of property myself, but I could not get any person to buy it; some, I am trustee for.

You do not know in what degree land has fallen?—It has certainly fallen; lands that would have sold in our part at 100 l. an acre, are now worth about 60 l.

If you were to withdraw your capital now invested in land, what loss do you think you should experience, as compared with 1809?—I should suppose pretty near half; I should think so; I have been selling stock lately; sheep that I used to sell about the same size, at 3 l. 15 s. for two guineas.

The question applies to the whole stock; what do you suppose would be the extent of your loss, comparing the present time with 1809?—Pretty near half, I should think.

How great, as compared with 1816?—I am not prepared to say; I do not recollect.

Has any reduction taken place in the price of the articles of husbandry, such as the price of a waggon or cart?—I find my own timber; and I pay the same wages as I have for the last ten years.

What has been the fall in the price of timber, in your neighbourhood?—Elm about one fourth, I suppose; elm was about 4 l. 10 s.; and it is now about 3 l.

What is oak?—Oak is more reduced; it was 15 l. a ton; and it is now 9 l. or 10 l.

Was it ever as high as 15 l.?—Yes, with the bark on.

What is the difference in the price of iron?—I apprehend the price of iron is low.

If iron is lower, are not your farrier's bills lower?—They ought to be lower; but when we advance our blacksmiths and carpenters on account of things being dear, it is a difficult matter to get them back again.

Have you tried to get them lower?—I have given them notice, that they must think of it soon, or else I shall not be able to employ them.

If you pay the farrier's labourer as you used to do, they must be particularly well off now that every thing is cheap?—They get more than their masters, I am certain.

Do you mean, that they get more than the blacksmiths?—No; more than the farmers.

Are any of their necessities of life reduced in price, except food?—No; when I go to my labourers, and say, I cannot pay them so much; they say, we must pay four-pence a pound for salt, and 10 s. for a pair of shoes.

What is the price of butcher's meat in your market now?—About sixpence a pound; I believe, about five-pence or sixpence.

Generally so low as that?—Yes.

Has it come within your knowledge, that many distresses have been taken among the lower renting farmers in your neighbourhood for rent?—It is of no use to distress the distressed. When you know a man to be honest, it is better to bear with him than to break him up and ruin his family; those people that rent poor farms are worst off, certainly. I would not have a poor tillage farm now, and be bound to manage it in a good husbandlike manner, if a person would give it me.

Are you of opinion, that most money is obtained by a high scale of husbandry, or by a low scale of husbandry?—By a high scale of course; where a person can keep a good large stock of sheep, he can farm to advantage.

Do you think there are no exceptions to this rule?—There might be exceptions perhaps, in a peculiar situation; in some peculiar land there might be.

Martis, 3^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Thomas Chapman*;

Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
Thomas Chapman.

(3 April.)

HAVE the goodness to state to the Committee your profession?—I am a land-agent and surveyor for the management and valuation of estates.

In all parts of England?—The estates under my management are situated in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Berkshire, and Hampshire; and as to valuations and sales of estates, my practice has extended over most parts of England.

Can you state how the rents have been paid?—Until the last year's rent very well; I have the management of about forty thousand a-year, in different counties.

And those rents have been well paid till this year?—Yes; I do not suppose upon the whole rental more than 200 *l.* arrears, up to Michaelmas 1819.

Have you received your last Michaelmas rents?—Yes; I finished the last audit three weeks ago, in Lincolnshire; upon the whole of the estates under my management there may, on an average, be about one-tenth of the year's rent, up to Michaelmas last, in arrear, some more, some less, but which is promised to be paid very soon.

When you went to receive the rents, did the farmers complain to you of great distress, or of any distress?—Yes, they did complain in all the different parts of the kingdom where I receive rents; they assured me their rents were paid out of their private purse, not from the profits of their last year's growth.

Was that general, or in particular counties?—General.

Was it more in one particular county than another?—I do not recollect it was; they are rather better off in Berkshire, because they have had very fine crops this year, but in the other counties they were pretty much the same; from the lowness of markets, and the inferiority of the wheat crop.

In what particular counties were they inferior?—In some parts of Norfolk, about Attleborough.

In what parts of England were they inferior?—They complained about Attleborough of the wheats not yielding so well; the barley crops were very great.

Did the farmers state to you a general feeling of distress; that they paid out of their capital, and not out of the profits of their farms?—They did, certainly; there is a great complaint of the increase of poor's rates, which are very heavy upon them.

Have any of those farmers given you any reasons why they were so much distressed, besides the deficiency of the crops?—On account of the lowness of the markets, for what they took to market produced a very small sum; and the increase of poor's rates is very great.

Were the first complaints you heard from farmers at your last audit, or had they been in the practice of making similar representations for some time past?—About four years ago they complained, when peace came.

About the year 1816?—Yes; and then I abated some rents in consequence thereof.

Have you reason to believe that the story which you heard of their paying out of their capital was true?—Yes, I have.

You stated that in 1816 you made some abatement upon the rents?—Yes.

To what extent?—About fifteen per cent as a temporary abatement; it happened that one estate in Berkshire I have the management of, I had to make a new arrangement of in consequence of an inclosure, and could not get the value I thought it was worth by fifteen per cent; therefore I agreed for four years that they should have it at fifteen per cent below my valuation, and the rent to be regulated afterwards by the market price for the last year of the four, and if wheat at Newbury market should average for the year up to Michaelmas 1819, nine shillings a bushel, they were to pay the advance of fifteen per cent for the remainder of the term of twelve years.

Mr.
Thomas Chapman.

(3 April.)

In point of fact, you had valued that land on the supposition of 9 s. a bushel?—Yes; the farmers were willing to give my valuation if the price of wheat was 9 s. a bushel.

Is that the price of corn at which you have generally valued arable land of late years?—Yes, it is; we used to go to 10 s. or 12 s. when wheat was very high.

When you valued wheat at 9 s. at what did you value barley?—Generally at half the price of the wheat.

Do you intend to recommend the gentlemen for whom you receive rents to make any further abatement of rent?—Provided the times do not improve there must be an abatement; the farmers cannot go on without.

Do you see any prospect of their being better able to pay next Michaelmas?—No; we look for a worse rent day, because many of the tenants have strained their utmost to pay last Michaelmas rent; they have sold a great deal of corn, and with many of them the corn will be exhausted.

In point of fact, is the instance you mentioned of a farm you valued and made a deduction of 15 per cent from the rent agreed on by your valuation, the only instance within your receipt?—No; an abatement on a large estate in Lincolnshire was made before the change of times, but which had been let by auction previous to its being put under our management, and we have not made any further abatement since then.

Have the tenants generally applied for an abatement?—They have not been very strenuous upon it till lately; but they now state, that in case the times do not change they must have an abatement.

What abatement, do you think, would meet their difficulties now?—I really do not know what to state, on account of the lowness of the markets; no abatement can compensate for that.

Suppose wheat at 8 s. a bushel, and an average crop; what abatement would compensate the tenant to whom you have let at 9 s.?—I should think, 10 per cent would be sufficient, provided labour and poor rates fall in proportion.

Are you of opinion, that an abatement of 10 per cent is sufficient to induce the present tenantry to remain, except where they are under engagement by lease?—If the rent they paid previously, was not an excessive rent, I should think it would; but that will all depend upon the manner in which the estate was let previously, whether high rented or not.

What is your general system of letting; do you recommend to your principals, to grant leases?—Yes; I have always found it has been an advantage to the management of the estate, to let leases: if it is a light land farm, for twelve years; if it is heavy land, then longer, particularly if it is in a bad state when the party takes it.

A great deal depends upon the crops of the country?—Just so.

Then are the Committee to understand, that, in your receipt of 40,000 l. a-year, if the average price of wheat, upon a moderate crop, was 8 s. you would think you did justice between landlord and tenant, if you recommended an abatement of 10 per cent?—I should think so, provided there was nothing extraordinary attending any particular estate, or high poor's rates. I certainly think, if they could look forward to an average of 8 s. for wheat, 10 per cent would be a sufficient abatement.

If the expenses and outgoings of the farmer were to remain the same, with an abatement of one shilling per bushel in the price of wheat, would 10 per cent then be a sufficient deduction?—Certainly not; because, I presume, that when the corn is lower, the labour will become lower, and the poor's rates lower.

Then you think the abatement of 10 per cent sufficient, having reference to the diminished expense which the farmer would be liable to in raising his crop?—Just so.

If you valued farms now out of lease, or to let, what would be your calculation, in point of fact?—We are quite at a loss, we do not know what to fix upon.

If the price of wheat was seven shillings, what would be your deduction then?—Really I do not know how to answer this question immediately, because in the present state of things, the expense bears so large a proportion to the gross produce, that unless some change takes place it is almost impossible to form any data to go by.

Are you of opinion that the fall in the price of corn has been more rapid, than the diminution of the expense of the farmer in raising it?—Certainly; I am clearly of opinion that it has been greater.

Supposing the price to continue at its present depressed state, do you apprehend that the expenses would considerably diminish from what they now are?—I am hardly able to form an opinion; I should say, they ought to be reduced; but it is a difficult

a difficult thing when you have got the labourers to high wages to get them down again; for they will go to the rates for relief, and only work on a bargain.

Have you turned your mind to what you shall do on the next audit day, supposing the tenants to press on their landlords, through you, their difficulties and distresses?—I can take no other course than recommending an abatement.

What abatement?—I do not know at present to what extent.

Do you think, if wheat was at the price which you now imagine, eight shillings a bushel, that the tenants of the land of which you now speak, would farm with the same spirit that they have been used to do?—No, I should not imagine they would, because the inducement was very great till within these last four or five years, having got large prices.

They would not lay out so much in labour?—No, it has been an observation with the large farmers, that the smaller farmers are afraid of employing labourers at the present time, and that those labourers come upon the parish.

Then, in that case, the poor's rates must be materially increased?—They certainly are.

Do not the poor rates depend more on that, than they do on the increase or decrease in the price of corn?—No; I think it is the decrease of the price of corn that operates upon the mind of a farmer, and prevents him from employing the poor.

Then, as a farmer is less able to employ the poor, the poor have less money to buy their bread with, and the poor's rates are increased by that, more than they are diminished by the low price of corn?—Certainly.

Do not you think, that the reason that the smaller farmers are afraid of employing the labourers, arises from the uncertainty of the price of corn and agricultural produce in general, and that that would be very much diminished, if the price of produce was steady?—Yes, I have no doubt of it; the fear is, that they shall not be remunerated for the sum they expend in labour; and they, unfortunately, do not see that they pay as much by throwing it on the poor's rates, without deriving any benefit from the labour.

If the farms in which you have been principally engaged, were at this time vacant, you would have no difficulty in letting them?—That would depend entirely upon the nature of the land; if heavy land farms, I should find great difficulty, or very poor light land farms.

Would it not also depend upon the mode in which it had been cultivated?—A great deal would depend on the state of the farm the tenant was to take to, and the nature of the soil.

Do you not think, that many men would be induced to enter upon a farm speculating upon reaping a share of the capital which his predecessor had invested?—No; I should not imagine that any person would take it upon that principle, because it could not last above two or three years, before it was worn out, and the tenant who was going out, would take care to leave very little behind for another person to benefit by, if he was certain of going out.

An allowance is always made for that by the custom of the country?—A farmer is restricted by the custom of the country; but he has the means of taking away a great portion of that which he puts on the ground.

But a man, on leaving a farm, must calculate upon the price he would obtain for his farm when he sells off?—He cannot, on taking a farm, form an opinion what will be the price at the time of his quitting, or of the amount of his stock.

A farmer remains in the farm till he is driven to desperation, rather than leave it.—There are many who have invested a large capital in farms, that are anxious to remain in, with a hope that the times will improve.

Taking into your consideration all the circumstances which govern your calculations, in re-letting a farm, poor's rates and all other charges, to which a tenant is liable, are you of opinion that upon those which you have let at fair rents, being upon a calculation of nine shillings a bushel of wheat, that an abatement of 10 per cent would be a sufficient allowance to the tenant, if the price fell to eight shillings a bushel, as a steady price?—Provided the labour and poor's rates fell in the same proportion.

You stated that you should find a difficulty in letting farms, in heavy lands and poor light lands; from what circumstances are those farms less likely to be in requisition than farms of a different description?—Because the produce is so uncertain; as it depends upon the season so much, and the expense is very great in cultivating heavy lands.

Mr.
Thomas Chapman.

(3 April.)

Are those a description of lands which have been brought very much into cultivation of late years, during the high prices?—No doubt, a great portion of the heavy lands and light lands have been brought into cultivation in consequence of the late high prices, which otherwise would have remained in their original state of pasturage.

Has there not been a considerable out-lay of capital on those lands?—Very great.

Is there not, if they should go out of cultivation, a very heavy loss to be sustained, either by the landlord or the tenant, according as the capital has been advanced, by one or the other?—Certainly, there must be a very great loss, particularly upon the heavy land; the heavy land would require a large capital to bring it into cultivation, and continue it so; the light land is not so expensive to cultivate.

Would not the capital already laid out on the heavy land, improve it when it came into a state of pasturage again?—If it has been improved by drainage, it will be better for the pasturage, undoubtedly; but cold clay lands are not congenial to pasture; they are a long time before they get down again to pasture.

Have you been in the habit of letting farms by tender?—No; nor by auction.

Where they have been let by tender or auction, rents have been given very far exceeding the rent calculated upon the data you have stated?—Certainly.

Upon a cold clay soil, how long is it before land becomes good grass land again?—I should think it impossible on a cold clay soil, to get a good grass under nine or ten years.

Where lands have been let by tender, particularly if they are of that description you have mentioned, namely, heavy lands or poor light lands, what do you conceive must be the abatement of rent in such cases?—I am quite puzzled to say what it should be, because heavy lands have had a considerable rise, in some instances, to thirty shillings an acre; and that was merely owing to the extraordinary high price of the markets; those same lands probably now would not let for more than seven or eight shillings.

Do you think that ten shillings a bushel would maintain those lands in cultivation at the present rents?—I think ten shillings a bushel would continue the heavy lands in cultivation at a fair rent, if the farmer could look forward to that average with a reduction in the price of labour and poor's rates.

And the greater part of the light land also?—There is not so great an expense on the light lands, therefore there is no doubt they would be continued in cultivation.

The light land is capable of being brought into a state of cultivation?—Yes; when I speak of light land, I mean the inferior light land; but which by the turnip system is able to keep a flock on it.

Is there not a great portion of land that may be considered light land, and yet not be called poor land?—Yes; I do not allude to light loamy land, but poor sandy land.

And black gravelly land?—Yes.

Is the Committee to understand, that, except lands of a very inferior description, to which you have alluded, in case of any of the estates which you manage being out of lease, you would probably re-let them without difficulty to substantial tenants?—I think I could.

Do you think that you could let them, if the tenants who were to take them, in general paid at the present prices, and the present prices of produce were to continue?—I do not know, if the present prices were likely to continue, and they could not see any hope of a change, the farmer would be alarmed, and would not think of spending the little capital he has remaining.

Would not the throwing out of cultivation the heavy and the light lands, throw an additional burden on the other lands in cultivation, by the poor's rate?—I should think so, because the employment for labourers would be considerably reduced.

Has the price of labour and the general expenses of farming, fallen with the price of produce, and risen with the rise of produce?—Not in proportion; they are more apt to rise than to fall in proportion.

How soon after a rise and fall in the price of produce, do you generally observe an alteration in the price of labour?—The increased price of labour will follow the high prices of corn rapidly, because a poor man feels the change immediately; but on the contrary, when the price of corn sinks, it is a considerable time before the price of labour can be reduced to its proper proportion.

Will not a competition among the labourers, sink the price of labour in proportion to the fall in the price of produce?—Unfortunately, there is not generally a competition with them.

No

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No competition among labourers?—No, hardly any; for the idea they now entertain, is, that they must be supported by the parish, whether they labour or not.

Are they as well supported when they do not labour, as when they do?—That will depend a great deal upon the magistrates of the country, whether they are in the habit of allowing them too large a sum or not; if they insist on the farmers in the neighbourhood making up a certain weekly sum to a labourer, according to his family, then I think that the spirit of industry is broken in upon in a great degree.

The Committee wish to know from you, what is the actual practice in respect to the allowances made to labourers out of work; do they receive as much as when they labour?—I should think, in many instances, they do; but I am not able to answer this question clearly, because I am not so conversant with the allowances that are ordered by the magistrates.

Does it not depend upon whether there is a considerable demand for labour or not, whether they are better off on labour than on the poor's rates?—If there was a scarcity of labourers, there would be an increase of price; but that does not happen, to my knowledge; quite the reverse.

Do you think the poor's rates ever increase without its being preceded by a fall in the price of labour?—Yes; the increase of poor's rates will proceed from excessive high prices, temporarily.

Excessive high prices of what?—Of corn.

At what price do you think wheat could be raised in this country, on the very best land, so as to afford a profit to the farmer, if he had no rent whatever to pay?—It requires a calculation I have not gone into, to answer this question.

Can you state generally to the Committee, what has been the rise of the rents upon the lands you manage within these thirty years?—That depends upon the manner in which the estates were let previously; there is no rule which you can take as a general rule; in some instances they have been doubled, or more than that; others not more than ten per cent or twenty; but all depends upon the manner the estate was previously let, and the improvement that has been made upon it.

Did you ever form any opinion as to the number of persons who are subsisted by their labour on arable land, as compared with those on pasture land?—No, I never did.

What should you suppose?—I am not able to speak exactly, but I should suppose very considerably greater upon arable land.

You have spoken to the probability of very light and heavy land returning to a state of pasturage; in that case the poor's rates in those parts must of course be materially increased?—Provided the population does not decrease, certainly.

In what part of Norfolk are you engaged?—About Attleborough, Watton and Loddon.

The land in the neighbourhood of Attleborough, is generally speaking good land?—There is some very good land, some indifferent; but in general it is very pretty land.

That about Watton is what?—There is some good land just about Watton; but there is a large tract of very poor light land in the neighbourhood.

What should you suppose is the average produce per acre of the land in the neighbourhood of Attleborough of which you speak?—The lands vary so much, it is difficult to state.

Generally speaking, what is the average produce of wheat and barley?—The average produce of wheat may be about three quarters and a half, and barley about five quarters.

At the present price of corn, could any of that land of which you speak, continue to be cultivated with any prospect of advantage to the occupier, either at Attleborough or Watton?—No, I do not consider they could, the present prices of corn being so very low; but to speak clearly upon it, it would be necessary to go into a calculation; though I should think it could not.

When you say that it could not, do you mean the occupier paying rent, or if he paid no rent?—I presume that he must pay rent.

Could it at a reduction of 20 per cent upon the present rent at the present prices?—I am not able to give an immediate answer; the reduction of prices of corn extends over the whole produce of the land, but the reduction of rent only goes to a smaller portion thereof.

Can you answer, whether the crop of the last year was an average crop, or over or under it?—I have stated, that in some instances the farmers have complained of their crop of wheat not yielding so well as they thought it would from the appearance on the ground; and as far as I can learn from the farmers, they say it does not

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produce nearly so well; to judge from it when on the ground, I should have said there would have been more than an average crop.

Do you know any thing with regard to oats?—The estates under my management are not fen lands.

At what proportion of the gross produce of the lands do you estimate the rent?—That depends upon a variety of circumstances; it is impossible to have any regular data.

Within your experience have there been great improvements made in husbandry?—Certainly.

Have not the effects of those improvements been to afford a greater quantity of produce for the same amount of capital?—The increase of produce has depended upon the expenditure of capital.

Would you call any thing an improvement, which was not followed by the effect of giving a greater quantity of produce, with the expenditure of the same capital?—I have stated, that according to the expenditure, the quantity has been increased.

If the produce has been increased merely in proportion to the increased expenditure, that is not an improvement at all; it would be, if he obtained a greater quantity?—My opinion is, that according to the expenditure the produce is increased; that is, a judicious expenditure.

Supposing a man to continue only with the same amount of capital upon his farm, and by his own ingenuity, or by copying better methods of his neighbours, is he able, at the same expense to raise a greater crop?—There is no doubt a very great difference between farmers; one farmer will raise a much larger crop of corn at the same expense, than another farmer; much depends upon judgment in farming.

From your experience, have there been considerable improvements; has the produce been increased for the expenditure of the same capital; has good farming increased?—Yes; there is no doubt that good farming has increased the produce.

How many years have you been a land surveyor?—On my own account, I have been about 24 years, and I was 11 years as assistant to the late Mr. W. Black, of Epping, a man very eminent; I have been five-and-thirty years in the business altogether.

Within that period, what, upon an average, on the lands you have managed, has been the increase in the rent?—I do not know that I ever took the pains to collect it; it varies according to the original letting of the land.

What do you suppose the rents upon the 40,000*l.* a-year, you now collect, have increased?—I should think there has been a rise of about 50 per cent, on an average.

Have many of them continued under the same tenantry?—Very few changes, except by death.

You say that, at your last audit day, and in your intercourse with the tenantry lately, they have stated their distresses and difficulties; did they point out to you any remedy, or any method by which those distresses could be relieved, in their judgment?—The opinion that the farmers generally seem to entertain was, that if there was an importation duty on foreign corn, it would relieve them; that they would be able then to send their produce to market on equal terms.

Do you suppose, that this impression which you find among the tenantry, has arisen very much from the circulation of the opinions of a committee that is sitting at Henderson's hotel?—I do not know; but I should think, the farmers, generally, entertain much the same opinion as that committee, from what I can learn from them.

Their opinion is, then, that a large import duty upon foreign corn, would relieve them?—Yes; they look at it in two points of view; they say, that the duty would relieve them in their taxation, as well as enable them to meet the foreign corn at market on equal terms.

If the duty operated in the way you mention in saving taxation, you mean, that there must be a revenue of course arising from that duty?—Yes.

Of course there must be an import?—Yes.

Do you think that import would be beneficial to the farmers?—That is the opinion they entertain.

Are you of opinion, that this remedy which the farmers look to, would relieve them?—I am not able to form an opinion upon it; the two material things necessary to relieve them are, that the markets should be better, and the poor's rates less.

Is the opinion that you have mentioned, that the farmers wish for a duty in the way of a protecting duty, or a prohibitory duty, or what?—They do not go so far as to wish to prohibit the importation of corn, but merely, that it should not come into market at a lower price than they can bring it to market themselves.

Supposing

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Supposing the same quantity of corn grown in England, and this foreign corn to come in upon this duty, equal to what they grow their corn, according to their view of the case, as the whole quantity in the market would be greater, how could the price be greater also?—I conceive the price would be greater of the foreign corn in the market, in consequence of the duty, otherwise they would not be remunerated for importing it.

Supposing there is a weekly consumption at Mark-lane of twenty thousand quarters, foreign corn shall come in, and the quantity brought to market every week is twenty-five thousand quarters; how could the market, with a fifth more of corn in it, bear a better price upon the sale of all the corn so brought to market?—I must confess I have not given it due consideration to be able to answer it; but my idea from the observation of others is, that if foreign corn is brought to market with a duty upon it, then the proprietor of that corn cannot sell it at a price below what the farmer here can sell it at; but now it is considered the importer of foreign corn can undersell them considerably.

The tenants consider it a relief to keep foreign corn out of the market?—The tenantry do not look to a remedy by keeping foreign corn out of the market, but by letting it come in subject to a duty.

Do not the tenantry of England generally conceive that they have sustained an injury from the excessive importations that have taken place lately?—That is their opinion certainly; and the poor's rates are a very serious thing upon the farmer.

In the event then of a very abundant harvest being spoiled by the wet, is it not possible, with a protecting duty of 5s. that foreign corn might be introduced at 9s. a bushel, which would obtain a preference in the market over British corn at 7s. being in that damaged state?—Yes; there is no doubt the better corn will command the market; but still I should think the importation duty would improve the sale of the inferior corn.

Mercurii, 4^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. William Custance;

Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you reside?—In Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.
What is your profession?—A land agent, a land valuer, and receiver of rents.
Do you receive rents to a large amount?—To a considerable extent.

Can you state to the Committee, how the rents you receive were paid last Michaelmas?—They have been paid very fairly; I was obliged to give a little longer time to receive them; but before I rendered my accounts to the respective parties, they were paid as well as they were last year.

In what counties do you chiefly receive the rents?—I receive in Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

In Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, are the estates for which you receive the rents, chiefly grass or arable?—In Lincolnshire, I think about an equal proportion of grass and arable; in Leicestershire, nearly altogether grass; there is, in all the farms, a small proportion of arable land.

But they are, in general, grazing or breeding farms?—Yes.

In the counties where you have grazing farms, are the rents better paid than they are of the arable farms?—I think they are.

Do you attribute that to there not being the same number of poor to maintain, and not so much expense in farming the grass lands?—Yes; I think the last two years, the arrears are as great on the grazing as upon the arable farm; meat and wool have produced a very low price, and I think the arrear has been as great in the one as in the other; in the years 1816 and 1817, when the great check was on agriculture, there was a great difference between the arable farms and the grass land farms.

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Do you apprehend, that next Michaelmas, the rents will not be paid so well as they were the last?—I cannot help fearing that such will be the case; the Lady-day rents will certainly not be so well paid.

In your opinion, have the farmers on the arable farms paid their rents from the profits of their farms or from their capital?—I have had the remark made by many most respectable tenants, that they are paying their rents out of their capitals at the present moment.

Do you believe that to be the case, to the best of your knowledge?—I think it is the case where the estates have been granted on lease, at a high rent; they remain at the same rents, and in such case they must pay out of the capital.

You found them at an amount which you consider above a fair rent?—Yes.

In point of fact there is no distress, except in those farms where the rents are too high?—I hear a great deal about distress.

If rents have been paid so punctually as you have described, how do you account for the distress you have just stated to exist?—The distress arises from the low price of corn; the farmer tells me, that though he is paying his rent, he cannot pay his tradesmen's bills; but I cannot tell whether he is paying them out of his own capital or not.

The distress depends upon the assertion of the farmer?—A good deal; we know that every thing fetches a low price.

You cannot doubt, that the farmer paying the same rent, either has had an inordinate profit, or that he is distressed in paying the same rent now?—I do not consider that the rents were put to the extent that would have been justified by the price in 1812, and for this reason, that all considerate men who value property, conceive it could not be maintained for any great length of time, and where leases were granted, rents were fixed at an average of twelve or fourteen years, and not to fluctuate from year to year.

Do you see any chance of the condition of the farmer being bettered?—Not unless the price of corn can be advanced; I believe that is what the farmer calculates upon.

Can you point out any other means by which the farmer can be bettered, than by a better price for corn?—A reduction of his rent, and other outgoings; there is no other way that I am aware of.

Can you point out any remedy the Legislature could enact?—I have not turned my attention to that, not being aware till within the last day or two, that I should be called upon to give evidence.

Do you think, that if the farmers were protected against foreign corn, by duty, in the same way that other manufacturers are protected, it would be a relief to them?—Of course; every protection would be a benefit to the farmer, as it would increase the price; I apprehend that an additional cause of the low price, is a diminished consumption, arising from many causes.

Do not you think the farmer would require to be protected against the interference of foreign corn?—I do think so.

In your situation, as a land agent, and receiver of rents, you are acquainted with a great many farmers in different counties?—Yes.

Does it appear to be the impression upon their mind, that nothing short of a security against the great influx of foreign corn, would give them relief?—That appears to be the opinion of the most intelligent farmers I am acquainted with.

Do not you conceive the import of foreign corn within the last year, has very much tended to lower the price in this country?—I do not know the amount of the imports, but I apprehend the imports have tended to lower the price in this country.

Do not you think, in the article of oats, the importation of foreign oats has tended to reduce the price of that article of the growth or produce of this country?—I conceive so; but I think also, there is a diminution in the consumption of oats in this country.

Arising from distress?—Arising from a variety of causes; I think there is a diminution in the number of horses of all descriptions.

Are you aware of the quantity of corn imported in the last fortnight of the ports being open, from the shores of the Baltic?—I am not acquainted with the fact.

How many quarters do you conceive to have been imported from the month of August, to the first of January?—It is a matter to which I have not turned my attention.

You are best acquainted with barley and wheat?—The rents I receive, are for lands on which all kinds of corn are grown, and grazing farms; I am not a farmer myself.

You

You say there has been a decrease of consumption?—Yes, I conceive so.

Do you conceive the last crop was an average crop?—In some districts, above an average crop; in some, not.

Upon the whole, what is your opinion?—That it was an average crop.

Do you believe that it was an average crop of wheat in Norfolk and Suffolk?—I should think it was, as far as my observation went.

Are you not aware that there was a very extensive mildew?—Partially, there was a mildew; not generally, I believe.

When you go into any county, you go merely to receive the rents?—To receive the rents; and occasionally, to value property.

Your information comes from farmers?—Chiefly from farmers, and my own observation.

You have no other means of information, except judging on the spot, when you go to receive rents?—Just so.

At what time of the year is that?—Twice a-year; Midsummer and Christmas are the times that I receive for all the parties I am concerned for, as being the most convenient times to the farmer for paying the rents.

Do you conceive the distress among the farmers is greater or less than it was in 1816?—I should think not so great as in 1816 and 1817, because there was such a complete stagnation to the circulation of money at that moment, that nothing could be turned into money.

Is there not that stagnation at present?—No, I think not; the produce can now be sold at the market price; at that time it was difficult to sell any thing, or to get money on any occasion.

Do not you think the price of wool has kept up better than other produce?—I think the farmer is better satisfied with the price of wool than with his other produce.

Do not you conceive the duty on foreign wool has tended to keep up the price of wool?—The impression upon my mind is, that the duty on foreign wool has tended to keep up the price of wool in this country.

Supposing the duty on the import of foreign wool were taken off, do not you conceive that would lower the price of foreign wool?—I conceive it would.

Do you find a great difference in the degrees of distress in the different places you have mentioned?—Yes; I think there is less distress in the grass land countries than in the arable.

Have the crops been more abundant in some of those places than in others?—They have.

Have the crops altogether been generally abundant?—The barley crop I think generally; the wheat crop not so; the oat crop I think very good.

In your experience, what effect do you think is produced on price in consequence of an abundant harvest; does the price bear more than in an inverse ratio to the quantity?—I am not prepared to say that.

Do you think that any fall of rent would be sufficient to compensate the farmer for the present low price of produce?—An abatement of rent alone would not be sufficient.

Would the annihilation of rent altogether, afford a sufficient compensation on any lands?—At the present moment, I think not.

If the landlord were to give up his rent entirely, on the very best lands, at what price do you think the farmer could afford to grow his corn?—I am not prepared to answer that question.

Are the lands you have the management of, generally held under leases?—Some of them, but not generally; many of them are.

Have you the means of stating to the Committee, whether the rents of those lands have increased very much within the last thirty years?—From 1796 to the present time, they have increased double, or more.

Has there been much capital expended upon them, in the shape of houses, or inclosures, or drainings?—A great deal.

Have the poor's rates increased much within that period, upon that land?—Upon the arable lands I think they have, in a much greater degree than they have upon the grass lands.

Have they increased upon the arable lands much, within the last two or three years?—I should think not within these last three years.

Should you suppose the poor's rates, at this moment, are upon the rise or fall?—I think they must be upon the rise.

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William Custance.

(4 April.)

Would not the want of demand for labour, tend to increase the poor rates?—Certainly, it would have that tendency.

Has any fall taken place within the last six years, upon those lands to which you speak?—A particular estate I can speak to; from 1809 to 1812, the rent was 3,280 *l.*; in 1812 an advance took place, and from that time to Michaelmas 1817, the rent was 3,678 *l.* In 1816 and 1817 it was necessary to make an abatement, and it was reduced at Michaelmas 1817, to 3,586 *l.*; and it remains now at 3,586 *l.* The tenants ask for some abatement, but no answer has yet been given.

You are understood to say, that, in your opinion, farmers on arable farms are in a greater state of difficulty than on pasture farms?—Yes, they have been; but, I think, at the present moment, the grazier is just as much oppressed as the arable farmer; meat produces to the grazier, a very low price.

Have you formed any calculation, as to the number of persons who are subsisted by their labour on arable land, as compared with those who are subsisted by their labour on pasture land?—I am not prepared to state the difference.

Do you not suppose the proportion is much greater on the one than on the other?—Undoubtedly.

On arable greater than on pasture?—Certainly.

Are you not aware, that, as it can never be advantageous to restore light or poor land to a permanent state of pasturage, consequently the capital now invested in light and poor land, must be wholly lost?—I think there is very little land but what a farmer would be disposed to improving, if he had it on a proper rent, and with a proper term granted to him.

When you say a fair rent, do you mean a rent in proportion to the present expense the farmer is at, and the low price of corn?—Of course the rent must be fixed in proportion to the times at which he hires it.

Do you conceive the present low price of corn is mainly to be attributed to a superabundant crop of last year, or other causes?—To the importation of foreign corn, and a diminution of consumption.

On what ground do you conceive the consumption is diminished?—There are several grounds on which I assume that; from the time of the army breaking up, it has been decreasing, I think, to the present moment. The first shock to the agriculturist, was the bringing home of the army, and sending away from this country, the foreign prisoners; the emigrants and others leaving this country, and the half-pay officers and other natives, who are residing out of the country. Retrenchment in the mode of living, amongst all classes of people, is another cause; all classes of persons are now travelling by stage coaches; a few years ago, they travelled on horses, in gigs, or post chaises, by which they lodged upon the road, at different stages; but the present system has reduced the number of horses, and a diminution of consumption, in consequence; the improvement in agriculture has caused a reduction in the number of horses and men required for the cultivation of a farm, consequently a diminution of consumption. With respect to the improved roads, there is a great reduction in waggon horses of all descriptions, in the conveyance of heavy goods; they are conveyed with greater facility, and with a less proportion of power. Inland navigation, I conceive, has tended much to the reduction of horses and of men, by taking a great number of horses off the road, which conveyed heavy goods; those are the chief points which, I conceive, tend to the decrease of consumption.

You have stated, that, in consequence of the reduction of the army, and the number of emigrants, there are much fewer people to feed than there were.—Yes.

That is one of the causes, in your opinion, for the low price of corn?—I think so.

Are you prepared to state, what number of people are absent, and what number less of men are in the country now than formerly?—No.

You cannot state the effect that would have upon the country, without knowing the numbers?—I cannot state the extent of the effect; that must be in proportion to the number absent.

You state, that, in consequence of the stage coaches travelling much quicker than formerly, there is less consumption by man and horse, at the inns on the road; but those persons must eat somewhere?—Yes; but there is a great saving in the number of horses; four horses will be drawing eighteen people by a stage coach, whereas a much greater number would be necessary to convey those persons by post chaises, on horseback, or in gigs.

Does not the conveyance of the articles of produce, by canals, at the same time that it lessens the number of horses, lessen the expense of the farmer?—Yes, I should think

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think it must, where they can make use of them; but canals are more immediately applied for the conveyance of heavy goods of other descriptions.

What is the expense of keeping a horse for farming purposes?—I should think 20 *l.* a year.

Then if a farmer can dispense with the use of two horses, he would save 40 *l.* a-year?—I should think so.

You have other lands under your care besides that the rental of which you have stated?—Yes.

Do you know any district in which arable land is not affected by the present distress?—I think all are affected.

At Michaelmas what rents do you receive?—At Michaelmas I receive the Lady-day rents, and at Christmas the Michaelmas rents, and return the arrears in each half year.

Is that arrear increased?—It is decreased since 1817, but higher than in 1819.

Have you reason to believe those rents have been paid from the capital of the farmer?—The statement of some of the farmers, I think is true.

Was that statement general?—I think not general.

Then how do you understand the distress to exist, if they have had the means of paying their rents from the produce?—On the grass land farms the tenants have not complained.

Can you state, what was the price of wheat at which you valued land about the year 1812 or 1814?—No, I do not know what the average price of wheat was in those years.

Upon what calculation did you fix the rent?—The average of wheat at 10 *s.* a bushel.

Did you ever fix it at higher prices than that?—I do not recollect that I ever did.

At what price should you fix the rent now?—In making some valuations last week, I made a difference of about twenty per cent from the price I fixed in 1812.

That would be 8 *s.* a bushel?—Yes.

That is the course you would take now in making a valuation?—I should make an abatement of 20 per cent upon former valuations.

You are of opinion then, that making your calculation of rent at 8 *s.* a bushel for wheat, you should be under any difficulty in re-letting estates of which the term might be now expired?—I think not.

Substantial tenants, with capital?—I think so.

You think, that as to those farms with which you are principally engaged, a reduction of twenty per cent on their rent would place them in a state of security?—I think it would satisfy them.

Taking into your consideration all the other expenses?—I think so. I do not know whether it would be proper to state a particular case; but I valued a farm last year, with an abatement of twenty per cent on the value (I should have stated, in 1812); the tenants, for what reason I do not know, (but either imagining I was going to do them an injury, or for some other reason,) went to their landlord to hire their farm; the proprietor would not enter into any engagement with them, without communicating with me upon it; but he induced them to make him an offer, and they at once offered him 20 per cent more than I had valued it at; but the treaty with him went off, and we have let it to two tenants, most responsible and respectable tenants, at 5 per cent less than the others offered.

The abatement actually made on the re-letting this estate is 5 per cent, and not 20?—Yes.

What is the actual abatement, as compared with the rent fixed in 1812?—I did not value this estate in 1812; but I valued a farm in the adjoining parish, the land of a very similar quality; this at 20 per cent less than the other in 1812.

At a reduction of 20 per cent, do you conceive the farmers, at the present low price of corn, could continue their farms?—Yes, where rents were fairly set before.

You let this farm to new tenants?—Yes.

Were the tenants ruined?—No; one of them left, because he bought another farm; the other hired another farm, which he thought cheaper.

Did you not always find in 1812, that, after you had fixed what you conceived to be a fair rent, there were persons always ready to give you a very considerable advance, if you had put it up to auction?—I should never have attempted such a thing. I have certainly heard of particular cases, where landlords have asked more than the valuations, where they have undertaken to let themselves; and I have heard of others putting them to auction, and very high rents obtained.

Mr.
William Custance.

(4 April.)

At this moment, if you had a farm to let, that was under disadvantageous circumstances, either from heavy poor's rates, or from being itself extremely poor, should you find it impossible to dispose of that farm to a tenant now?—Yes; I think there are some districts, where it would be very difficult to let land; the poor thin-skinned clay lands are difficult to let, at any price; tenants with capitals would scarcely take such lands, at the best times.

In letting a farm now, would you keep in your view the probability of an improvement in the price of corn, or would your calculation be founded upon the permanency of the present price?—I should certainly calculate on some improvement in the price of corn.

What is your opinion, from your knowledge of agricultural farming and cattle farming; are you not sure, that the rent must be paid from the capital?—Upon the arable lands, at the present moment, I think it must.

Do you conceive there is a profit, over and above the charges, sufficient to pay the rent?—Yes; taking an average of years.

With good management, are you prepared to say, that the tenant can, at the present price of corn, pay his rent from the profits of his farm?—Not at the present moment.

Having regard to all the expenses incident to farming, do you think the tenantry under your care, are likely to be in a situation of prosperity, if wheat sells at 8 s. a bushel?—I think if wheat sells at 8 s. a bushel, and the rents are set fairly, they will be able to pay their way.

When you say, having regard to all the circumstances, do you contemplate a diminution of expense, in raising the produce of the farm, if corn sold at 8 s. a bushel?—Labour is cheaper, and other things should correspond.

In what proportion should you state that labour is cheaper?—In the employment on public concerns, work can be done for half the price; in making roads and drains.

You do not allude to the system of employing people on the roads, merely for the sake of keeping them employed?—No; work in public improvements.

Do you think the labourers are as well off with their low wages, as they were with their high wages, six or eight years ago?—I should think not; there is a great anxiety in them, to be employed even at low wages.

Do you think their diet is better, or worse?—I should think, worse; in the estates I am concerned with, I have adopted the plan of letting land to cottagers; and so to keep cows, and they live better.

What is the highest rental, per acre, you have set on land in your valuations?—I go over a farm, and value it piece by piece, according to the particular situation and quality; on the best grazing lands, tithe free, I have fixed as high as 3 l. an acre, in the highest times; and then fixing a relative value upon the rest of the farm, according to quantity and situation, and the average value will depend upon the comparative quantity of each sort of land; arable farms, with a fair mixture of grass land, tithe free, would be about 26 s. an acre, on the average.

Are you able to state, what is the average proportion of increase of rents, since 1796, upon the estates under your management?—I have put down two farms that have gone through my hands; there was one farm, valued in 1796, at 341 l.; in 1812, at 768 l.; and in 1819, the lease having expired, I valued and re-let it to the old tenant, at 674 l.; and it remains so at this moment.

Upon what term?—Seven years; another farm was valued in 1796, at 248 l.; in 1810, I valued it at 399 l.; in 1817, at 523 l.; it was granted on lease for fourteen years; but improvements had been made by the lessor.

Will they keep it out for the fourteen years?—I should hope so; I have no reason to believe to the contrary; it is a farm in high condition, in the hands of a most excellent tenant.

Have you any knowledge whether the poor's rates on those farms, have materially increased?—No, I have not.

Have you any knowledge what the drainage taxes upon those farms, have been?—There is a great difference in the charge of drainage rates; but those were clear rents.

A large amount of capital has been invested in those farms, by those tenants?—No doubt of it.

Consequently they will remain at a very great disadvantage, rather than quit them?—A farmer would be very reluctant to give up his occupation, if he did not know where to go.

With respect to poor's rates and other burthens, you are ignorant whether they are

are upon the rise or fall?—I am not prepared to state that at the present moment; but certainly not upon a fall.

Have you received the rents upon those farms of which you are now speaking?—One of them, the first I mentioned, I receive at this time.

Have you received the full rent?—Yes, it is paid clear up.

Do you believe the rent you last received was paid out of the capital, or out of the profits?—I have no reason to suppose it was out of capital; two of the tenants mentioned to me, that they hoped the landlord would make some abatement, and I promised to report to the landlord, and they should know next rent-day what he determined upon.

You know nothing, as to how they pay the money, but what you hear at this dinner?—There is a conversation takes place, about the badness of the times.

Do not you see that the covenants of the lease are properly attended to?—No doubt; I am down two or three days, and go over the farms.

In a former part of your evidence, you were understood to have observed, that a very great retrenchment had taken place in the mode of living of farmers?—I meant to say all classes of people.

Farmers as well as others?—I think so; farmers are living very quietly and very discreetly.

Have farmers adopted the same economical system as other classes?—Yes.

How do you account for this state of ease and happiness?—When I stated that they go away happy, all I meant was, that they appear to be contented.

Have the landlords, in the two instances you have mentioned to the Committee, laid out any money in improvements, between 1796 and the present time?—In the one farm nothing at all, except common repairs, in the farm I first mentioned; in the second there was some money laid out in new buildings and improvements.

The rent between the first and last period has been nearly doubled; to what do you attribute the rise?—The difference in the price of the produce of, and the demand for, land, I apprehend.

Then the farm, at the present moment, is pretty nearly, as to its state of production, in a double state of value?—At the periods at which the farms were let, it was imagined that the produce justified the rent.

That has been effected by the tenant's improvements?—The mode of farming I conceive to be superior to that in 1796; the practice was at that time the common field system, two crops and a fallow; with the exception of Norfolk, they were not at all acquainted with the growth of turnips and seeds; and at that period, in a great part of the district I am acquainted with, men were in the habit of ploughing with four and even six horses and two men, which is now generally done with two horses and one man; the improved system of farming has reduced the expense so, that they can afford to give a better rent than they could in 1796.

Do you consider the produce of a farm at present, to bear about the same proportion to the rent, that it did in 1796?—By the adoption of seeds and turnips, I think the whole produce of the farm is greater than it was in 1796.

When you were asked, what the value of arable land in Cambridgeshire was, you said you calculated it at the rate of eight shillings a-bushel; what is the average crop in the county of Cambridge?—That is not the mode of proceeding, in making valuations.

What is your mode?—My mode is, to go over each piece of land, and according to the quality and situation of the respective pieces, I affix as I consider it to be worth.

Do not you judge of its quality by the quantity it will produce?—That mode of calculation is not usually adopted in valuing property, for the amount of product will depend upon management; a man knows from habit, that land of a certain quality, in a certain situation, will fetch such particular rent from respectable tenants.

The produce must be the criterion from which you can fix the rent?—It is the foundation of it, no doubt.

Are you prepared to state, what should be the produce in quantity from a farm at a certain rent?—I think it should produce the value of five rents.

How much ought the farmer to make by the acre, to pay the rent you mention?—Five times the amount of his rent.

On receiving rents at the last Michaelmas, did the tenants, generally, ask you for a delay in the payment of their rent, either in expectation of being able to sell their stock, or from any other cause?—Some of them did.

To a great extent?—Not to a great extent.

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(4 April.)

You have alluded to the period of 1812, as being one at which the farmer received a great profit; on the average of the last seven years, do you think farmers, generally speaking, have had an opportunity of making very great profits on their farms?—The last seven years, certainly not.

Considering the charges on the land, rent, tithes, seed, poor's rates and local taxes, and the average produce, and the price of produce, do you conceive the farmer makes any profit on his land, on barley ground, or wheat ground?—I should think, where rents have been set fairly during the seven years, he must have had some profit.

Has he had any profit for the last three years?—Judging from the manner in which the rents have been paid, I should think he has some profit; I do not inquire into his profits; if I see that he pays his rent, and he makes no complaint, I conclude he is satisfied.

Within three years, have you let a considerable number of farms?—Yes, several, and found no difficulty in letting them; I have made a difference since 1812.

You have stated what has been the fluctuation in the rents of two farms between 1796 and 1819; is the Committee to understand, that in the general management of the estates under your charge, the increase of rent has been any thing correspondent with those two instances?—Exactly so.

Do you mean to say, generally, between 1796 and 1820, as far as your experience goes, the rents have nearly doubled?—I think so; but I have not been acquainted with the other estates under my care for so long a period.

Are you aware in what proportion other expenses upon those lands have increased?—No, not at all; tithes of course have increased in proportion with rents; poor's rates depend a good deal upon the management of parishes; it is difficult to ascertain what poor's rates are; it has been said, that in some instances where the labourers have less than they ought, the difference has been paid into the rates.

In what proportion has the expense of labour decreased?—Labour has been fifteen shillings a week; it is now twelve shillings, I believe.

It what proportion have tradesmen's bills increased?—I cannot say.

You are not aware how far taxation, either direct or indirect, affects an arable farmer?—No; I am not prepared to give an answer to that.

In valuing land, you state, that you calculate on a probable rise in the price of corn?—I fix the rent by taking a fair average, as far as one can judge from past times; and if corn is low at one time it has usually risen at others; the seasons and other causes will influence the price.

Is it your opinion, in case of an average crop the ensuing harvest, the price will rise?—No; I think not.

What is the ground of that opinion?—I cannot see what should induce its rising, if it is an average crop; a short crop would cause a rise, provided there was not a great influx of foreign corn.

You have spoken as to the great diminution which takes place in consumption, and have alluded particularly to the reduction of the army as one cause; are the Committee to understand from that, that the disbanded soldier consumes less wheat and grain now than when he was employed?—No; I mean that when the troops returned from the Continent, the supply of those troops which was sent from this country, and the waste it created, ceased; when the foreigners and the prisoners of war were sent home, the supply to them ceased also.

You state that you are in the practice of inspecting the farms to which you are agent, once or twice a year, as you receive the rents?—I am.

Does it upon the whole consist with your observation, that the quantity of land brought into tillage for the growth of wheat, has increased within the period of your knowledge of business?—I think so; from 1796 the different mode of tillage will increase the quantity of wheat.

Do you think the quantity of land, which in the course of tillage is brought into a wheat crop, is still increasing?—I do not know that it is now increasing; the old system of sowing two crops and fallow one-sixth wheat was usually sown, but when that system has been abandoned, a greater proportion of wheat is grown.

Do you conceive the increased produce of the kingdom in wheat, has from this cause and from the improvement in farming, more than kept pace with the increased consumption?—I think so; but I do not know the extent of the increase of wheat, or of the consumption.

From what period do you state that opinion?—Since the fallow-field system began to

to be exploded; and about the year 1800, inclosures and other great improvements began to be general.

Are you of opinion then, that upon the average crop, owing to this increased quantity of land in wheat tillage, and to the increased produce to be expected from the improved system of husbandry, this country produces a sufficient quantity of bread-corn for its consumption?—I should think it would; and the general opinion that foreign corn is not wanted, implies that it would.

At what price do you calculate wheat to be, in order to produce the rents which you lately fixed?—Wheat was taken at the average of ten shillings a bushel, in fixing the rents in 1812; a reduction of 20 per cent will bring that price to eight shillings a bushel.

That is not the present price of wheat?—No.

Then what reason have you to suppose that to be a fair rent?—From the change of seasons and other circumstances, the price of stock and other produce usually fluctuate; in 1815, when there was so great a stagnation, it obliged the breeders of sheep and cattle to get rid of their breeding stock and sheep; the consequence was, that in a year or two, there was a very short supply of store sheep and cattle, and the prices rose considerably, in consequence. It is probable thus, the present low prices will produce the same effect again.

Your opinion is, that the present depressed price of corn, arises merely from the over supply in the market?—From an over supply, arising from a diminution in the consumption, and importation of foreign corn.

It is your opinion that the present low price of corn is merely temporary?—I do not say it is merely temporary; I conceive that the price of the produce of land will fluctuate in future, having seen that it has at all times done so; but a great influx of foreign corn will most likely counteract it.

Have you, ever since you have been a land agent, seen the farmers in so distressed a state as they are at this time?—I think they were more so in 1815 and 1816; at that time it was difficult to sell; but a man may now sell his commodity if he will take the price of the day.

If you think the farmers were more distressed in 1815 and 1816, have they had time, since that period, to recover from the distresses of that period?—I think not; there was a great shock at that period.

Do you expect to receive, at Midsummer, the rent due at Ladyday, in the same proportion as you have in former years?—I cannot say; the arrear is always greater on the Ladyday rents than on the Michaelmas rents; but I do fear, that the arrear will be much increased.

Have you taken into consideration the possibility of the rents being altered in value, by the late alteration of the currency?—I am not sufficiently competent to understand the currency; I have always considered, that the restriction upon the bank, which checked the circulation of money in the first instance, was injurious to the agriculturist, and to trade; and I have thought latterly, that it has driven every thing into the hands of the great capitalist, who has the power of influencing the markets. When a man could go to a country banker, and draw money as he wanted it, or get bills discounted, he would lay out that money in the corn market, or the cattle market, which would create a competition; and he being content with a small profit, would buy, coming nearer to the price of the consumer, and thereby giving a better price to the grower. The men with ready money, will naturally buy as cheap as they can, and when they have purchased, they will expect a larger profit than the man who is obliged to sell to answer his bills; the graziers do not come so near to the price of the consumer, as they used to do; for they will tell you that they do not get above five-pence halfpenny, or sixpence per pound for their meat; whereas in the meat market, a much higher price is paid by the consumer.

You have stated, that there is now a check to the desire of growing corn? Certainly; for there is an inclination in some farmers, to let their layers lay longer than usual.

Do you think that applies to all species of grain equally, or to wheat more than any other?—I think there is an inclination in the mind of the farmer, to grow wheat at all times, more than any other species of grain.

Has not that a tendency to exhaust land?—No, I think not, if land is properly cultivated, and a proper change of crops.

Do you think that land can continue to grow wheat, after beans?—There is some land on which they cultivate wheat and beans only.

None but the best land could bear that?—None but the best land.

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(4 April.)

If he was not restrained by covenants, would not a great desire of growing wheat, tend to injure the land generally?—I do not think a consistent farmer would be desirous of growing wheat, to the injury of his land.

You were understood to say, that you considered that this country could produce sufficient bread corn for its own consumption; what do you mean by this country, Great Britain, or do you include Ireland?—I did not consider Ireland at the moment; but I suppose that it is with the aid of Ireland, that we can do without foreign corn.

You think England grows enough for its own consumption, without including Ireland?—I am not prepared to say that.

As you think the growth of this island is sufficient for its consumption, and you have not taken Ireland into your consideration; you are of opinion, that, throwing the corn of other countries into consumption, would lower the value of the corn of England and Ireland?—Certainly.

When you inspect the farms of which you have the management, do you consider it a part of your duty, to see that they are properly stocked for the proper management of the farm?—Certainly.

In point of fact, have you observed upon the farms under your management, whether the stock of the farmers has, or has not diminished, within the last three years?—I think the farms for the last three years, have been full of stock.

Were they full at the last time of your inspection?—I think they are so now.

Do you state that from your own observation?—From what I have seen upon the farms, and the large droves I have seen on the roads, I believe there was plenty of stock last year. When it has been remarked, that a short supply in the market would enhance the price, the grazier has answered, that there was no probability of that at present, as there was plenty of stock to send.

Would your observation lead you to state, that the tenants were in a declining condition in those respects?—I think they would not send more stock to market than their usual consumption, provided they had sufficient keeping for them.

Are you not aware, that immense quantities of lean stock have been lately sent to Smithfield market?—I have understood so; and I have observed sheep and beasts of a very inferior quality, on the road to market.

Do you not conclude, that a great portion of that stock may have been driven into that market by the distress of the farmer?—I do not know; it sometimes happens from a want of keep.

Sometimes from the want of money?—Certainly; but it is not an uncommon case for a farmer to send his stock into market, because he has not keep for them.

What should you state as the average produce per acre of wheat in the county of Cambridge?—I should think, three quarters an acre.

What of barley?—Perhaps four.

In this district, in which you are principally conversant, where there was a growth of turnips, what was the crop of turnips last year, good or bad?—Very partial; not any way good, but generally bad. I think the coleworts that are sown to be eaten off by sheep, were worse than the turnips.

Have you ever been engaged in agriculture yourself?—Never.

You had no connexion with agriculture before 1796?—I had not.

Did you then begin your business as a land surveyor?—Yes.

The chief ground of the information you have given to the Committee is, the fact that you have positively received the rents, up to the last Michaelmas?—There is some arrear; I have returned some arrear, in the last Michaelmas accounts.

Do you see any alteration in the mode of farming?—There is less expended in forcing crops, than there was.

Do you mean that there is less money laid out in manure, for cultivating the lands?—Certainly.

And less demand for labour?—Certainly.

Why is there less money laid out in manure?—The farmer feels that he has not the same encouragement to do so.

What do you calculate the expense of cultivating an acre of wheat?—I am not prepared to state that; it requires time to figure down all the items; there are double rents and double tithe, and a variety of circumstances; in some land, it will be more expensive than others.

What is the price of a quarter of wheat, in Cambridgeshire?—I do not know; I do not reside in Cambridgeshire; I reside in town.

Were

(4 April.)

Were you ever employed to take any valuation of lands belonging to the crown?
—I have been.

You have been engaged on the part of the crown, in the valuation of land?—I have.

When were you last engaged on the part of the crown, to make a valuation?—
I cannot call to mind; not very recently.

Have you been frequently applied to, on the part of the crown?—Yes; I have for several years.

How many years?—I cannot state; but in Mr. Fordyce's time, for some years before his death.

Are you employed in particular counties?—The counties of Cambridge, Northampton, and Lincoln.

For the estates of the crown in those counties?—Yes.

If you are employed to value an estate belonging to the crown, being out of lease, in what mode do you proceed to value?—I proceed in the way I usually do, in respect of other farms, and report to the board the fair rack-rented value of that estate, just the same as I do for a private individual.

Are you called upon to authenticate that valuation, in any manner?—Upon oath before a magistrate.

Are you employed by the board to let the land which you have so valued?—I have been occasionally employed by the board to do so; but I do not let the land without a special order from the board.

Have you generally let those lands at the value you have recommended, and which you have sworn to?—Generally I have; there has been a case or two, probably just at the lowest check, where some of the lessees declined renewing, in consequence of their not being able to make a profit of them; and the under tenants were chiefly engaged, and continued to this time, with some little abatement I think upon the valuation.

Is there any difference between the measures you have taken, in respect of a tenant under the crown and a tenant under an individual, in determining the amount of rent?—Not in the least, in my mind.

Except that you swear to the valuation as a fair one, between the crown and the tenant?—Yes.

Cannot you inform the Committee, when the last valuation taken by you for the crown was?—No, I cannot at this moment; I am a receiver for the crown at this time.

Generally speaking, of what description are the lands belonging to the crown which you value?—Of all descriptions; some very good land, some very poor arable land.

Should you state, that those lands belonging to the crown would go out of cultivation rapidly, if the present prices were to continue?—No, I apprehend not. I apprehend the crown tenants feel that they are fairly off; and having long leases they have a great interest in cultivating them properly.

How can you reconcile your valuation at a high price with the present price?—I am not aware that I made any particular valuation, during that very high price, for the crown.

You must have borne in your mind the relative price of corn?—We take the average value where a lease is to be granted.

Upon what estimate do you form your valuation?—The crown leases are long leases.

Taking what price of corn?—At the highest price we took it at, 10 s.; I believe that was the practice of surveyors at that time.

You think, if the price of wheat was reduced to 8 s. the light arable land belonging to the crown, of which you speak, would still remain in a state of cultivation?—I apprehend the crown land would be in just the same situation as other lands. A farmer would not lay out the same money in the improvement of it, but he would not put it out of cultivation; at least, I have no reason to suppose that at present.

Neither the crown lands, nor other lands, would be continued to be cultivated with the same spirit, if corn remained at the same price?—No, not at the same expense certainly.

The demand for labour would be decreased?—Yes, I think it is decreased at present.

Are the crown estates let to the immediate tenant, or are there occupiers under the crown lessee?—There are a good many in lease to persons who underlet them;

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(4 April.)

middle men; and there are a good many of the tenants of the crown, who are themselves the occupiers of the land.

What proportion do the crown rents you receive, bear to the other part?—I think about two-fifths.

You stated just now, that you conceived the farmers of the present day to be in a better situation than they were in 1815 and 1816?—I think there was a greater check generally, in the years 1815 and 1816; every thing was positively at a stand still at that moment, till money began to circulate again; I am not prepared to say that they are better off at this period.

You are not prepared to give an opinion upon that?—No, I am not.

Do you think, that at any period since the years 1815 and 1816, the farmers have been in a better situation than they are at the present moment?—Yes, I think they were after the bad harvest; I think in 1817, money came more into circulation, and they began to procure breeding stock again; lambs and sheep sold very well, and they were better off in 1818 than they are now.

Is it your opinion, that the farmers are now in a gradually declining state, or that the present distress arises from any sudden shock, similar to that which occurred in 1815 and 1816?—I think if the present prices remain the farmer must sink; it is only in the expectation that some change will take place, that they can hope to go on; the shock has not been so sudden as in 1815 and 1816. The depression has been more gradual.

Is your commission for the management care and receipt of the crown's estate, larger in proportion than for that of individuals?—I have a larger commission from individuals than from the crown.

Half the commission you receive is for the crown's property?—About two-fifths is crown rent.

Do you visit the crown farms?—Yes, I do.

When did you last visit the crown farms?—In the autumn of last year.

Have you considered whether an abundant, an average or short crop, is the most advantageous to the farmer?—I should think an abundant crop; I see that a farmer is always anxious to get quantity, therefore I suppose it is the quantity which is to pay him.

Do you think a year ever occurs in which a farmer has an equally abundant crop in every species of grain?—I conceive not.

Jovis, 5^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Edward Wakefield*;

Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
E. Wakefield.

(5 April.)

WILL you state your pursuit in life?—I am a general land agent, for the sale and purchase of land; acting as steward, and in the receipt of rents, for several large estates; and a land valuer.

To what length of time can you speak, practically, as to your knowledge of land, and its relative circumstances?—I commenced business as a farmer, in the county of Essex, at Michaelmas 1794; and from that time I have paid constant attention to all the circumstances connected with landed property.

In what state do you now find the rents paid, and in what state do you find the tenants and labourers of the estates, which you superintend and receive the rents of?—I am chiefly engaged in business in the southern part of England, and I have found the state of the country extremely different. In the eastern districts, in Sussex and Kent, the distress is almost beyond description. It is very bad in Essex, Suffolk, and parts of Norfolk; but in the west of England, I never knew rents better paid; and I am not speaking merely of my own experience, but from talking generally with land agents and land proprietors, and hearing from them that this has been the case during the last autumn.

To last Michaelmas?—Yes; but I should state, that, although the rents have been paid, the tenantry state their opinion, that they cannot continue to pay them. With regard

regard to the tenants, I am inclined to think that a great deal of rent the last year has been paid out of what may be termed their capital; either by means of borrowing, or prematurely selling their stock. With respect to labourers, the payment to labourers has very much fallen of late years; and, although I by no means find them so badly off as they were in 1816, yet they must be stated, generally speaking, to be in a very deplorable condition.

The labourers?—I think so.

I wish to ask the witness, whether his observations apply to the west of England, with respect to the tenantry and labourers, as well as to other parts of the country?—The tenants in the west of England were always much worse off than those in the eastern part of England; knowing them in detail upon some very large estates, knowing the particular circumstances of every cottager and labourer, I cannot account myself how their earnings are sufficient to maintain life.

But do you think that the tenants in that part of the country, which has been under the most favourable circumstances, have paid their rents also out of their capital?—I find it difficult to form an opinion upon this point, as to the part of England to which I have now particularly alluded. Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Cheshire and the North of Wales; because in that country there has been a most abundant crop of corn, such as the cultivators assure me was never known in the memory of man before.

I would ask, whether your knowledge extends to Somersetshire, Devonshire and Cornwall?—Cornwall is the only county I have never been in.

What is the cause to which you attribute this state of circumstances, which you have now related to the Committee?—I receive the rents of one of the most considerable estates in Devonshire, which is in three parts of the county; a part of it is near Plymouth, a part near Exeter, and a part on the borders of Somersetshire. There was some arrear on that estate, nearly the whole of which was collected last November; but upon the largest part of the property, which is in a dairy country, there has not been a very considerable fall in the price of butter: in that part of it near Exeter, which is under the plough, the tenants state themselves to be in much greater difficulty.

When you go down in May, do you expect to receive the rent?—I was upon that estate the week before the last, and although the tenants generally complained, I feel pretty confident, that when I go there in May, to collect the Ladyday rents, they will be paid.

To what cause do you attribute the state of circumstances you have related?—I attribute the general distress of the country to a combination of circumstances, which I should divide into the general state of the currency, and that not merely in England, but to the currency of Europe; to the very low prices of corn, partly occasioned by the great crop in the northern and western parts of England, and to the war demand having ceased, which created a vast consumption of corn for the army and navy, and for the feeding of Spain and Portugal, from Ireland.

What is your opinion of the effect of the general state of the currency on the price of agricultural produce at this time?—I think that the change of currency which has taken place since the year 1794, caused a rise in prices up to the year 1813, of which I have hardly found any one completely aware, who did not take the trouble to look at the thing in detail; as far as it regards estates, I will state one or two instances that have come within my own knowledge. In the adjoining parish to which I farmed, in Essex, a farm of 500 acres of cold clay land, called South Minster Cage, had been let to one of the most considerable farmers of that district, at three hundred pounds a year; it was purchased by a friend of mine for ten thousand pounds, who let it upon a fourteen years lease, for five hundred pounds a year, during which fourteen years, I know that the tenant bred up a large family, in what may be called farming affluence, and that he not only maintained his respectable situation in society, but that he laid by money, and every year invested something in the funds; but at the expiration of his lease, in 1814, he took a fresh lease for fourteen years, at a thousand a year, since which time, so long as he lived, he was obliged to sell out of the funds to pay his rent; and his family who are now continuing this business, complain that they are annually losing. I will state another instance in the parish in which I farmed, the parish of Burnham. In Essex, there is a farm called Hollywell, of three hundred and thirty acres of land, of a very superior quality, belonging to the trustees of Lady Boswell's charity, at Seven Oaks in Kent; it was let previous to the year 1790, at ninety pounds a year; in the year 1790, it was let for

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for twenty-one years, expiring in 1811, at two hundred and forty pounds a year, and the tithes, which then belonged to Sir Henry Mildmay, were thirty pounds a year; in 1811 it was let for fourteen years, at six hundred and eighty-nine pounds a year, and the tithes now paid to Lady Mildmay, are one hundred and forty pounds a year. The Middleton estate in Norfolk—

Perhaps you do not wish to mention names?—The lettings of Hollywell being an account of a public charity, I have no objection; I could give fifty instances, but I do not think it would be right to mention names.

Was this charity let by auction?—No. The Middleton estate in Norfolk, was purchased about forty years ago, for twenty-five thousand pounds; in the year 1812, a hundred and forty thousand pounds were refused for it, and I have lately entirely failed in endeavouring to obtain a hundred thousand pounds for it. I know an estate in Worcestershire, called Sheriffs Linch, near Evesham; it was purchased by a friend of mine, soon after the year 1800, I cannot speak exactly to the year, for sixteen thousand pounds; the estate consists of eleven hundred acres; the gentleman who purchased it was not then a man of property, and he borrowed the money to pay for it, from two neighbouring banks.

In what year?—I cannot say; it was soon after 1800, in 1802, or 1803; in the course of three or four years, he sold four hundred acres for eight thousand pounds, and the remaining seven hundred acres, he sold to a gentleman who he met on the top of a stage coach; he took him home, and the following morning he signed the contract, to give him thirty thousand pounds for this property; the buyer, being unable to pay for it, came to London, and resold it to a solicitor at Colchester, for a profit of two thousand pounds; that solicitor being also unable to pay for it, borrowed money sufficient to do so, and paid the middle buyer his two thousand pounds profit, and paid the original buyer, whom it had only cost eight thousand pounds, thirty thousand pounds; the estate was let, for a short time, for fourteen hundred pounds a-year, and was put up at Garraway's, previous to the failure of the attorney at Colchester, who had purchased it, I think in 1812, by Mr. Farebrother, who refused thirty-three thousand pounds for it; it afterwards fell into the hands of the first mortgagee, who had lent twenty-six thousand pounds on it; the tenant having failed, and the estate being entirely out of cultivation, Mr. Farebrother advised the mortgagee to take ten shillings in the pound for his debt, and he put it up at Garraway's, about two years since, subject to a mortgage of thirteen thousand pounds; a stranger who was present, made a bidding of one hundred pounds, and it was sold to him for thirteen thousand one hundred pounds. Speaking of the rise of prices, I know several parishes, the commutation of the tithes of which are now equal to what the rent was in the year 1796. I think the rise in prices was occasioned by the paper system throughout the Continent. I believe that England acted towards the Continent as the bank of the world; and that one of the reasons of the fall of prices in England, has been the return to currency on the Continent. In England, the great increase of the circulating medium by the bank restriction, occasioned an artificial rise in prices, which I do not attribute exclusively to the increase of Bank of England notes, but to the extraordinary increase of the circulating medium by country bankers, which received a very great check in the year 1813; and has in that respect, I think, returned into a much more wholesome state. The rise in prices is by no means limited to the value of the estates, or to the rents of land. The price of labour, up to the year 1813, rose to a very high price; and poor's rates infinitely increased, and of course taxes generally. All the produce of the earth rose at an equal rate, and finally doubled in price. Between the year 1794 and 1813, copse wood, I think, trebled; timber, I think, trebled; and bark rose very much; all of which are now falling back.

Is timber now falling?—I think there is a less fall in timber than any thing else. In the districts where the cultivation of hops is very much relied upon, the price only just pays the duty, which is 18s. 4d. per hundred, picking drying and carrying to market bring them up to 2l. 3s. and unless it be a very fine sample, that is about what they sell for, it making no difference to the grower, whether his land has produced one hundred weight an acre or ten hundred weight, he gets no remuneration for rent or cultivation.

Have you any thing more to state, as to the general fall of the price of agricultural produce?—I am not aware of any thing.

Have you the means of giving the Committee any information as to the depression of the price of raw materials; of articles that farmers chiefly use?—Yes; iron work

work for instance, which I used to pay seven pence per pound for, I now generally get done for four-pence halfpenny.

In what county was that?—Generally in the south of England.

You are speaking generally?—Yes.

Can you give any information as to leather?—I do not know enough of the immediate detail, my mind not being so much occupied as formerly with the detail of farmers bills; I cannot speak as to leather. Regarding the question of currency, I have brought with me a chart framed by a friend of mine, Mr. Tertius Galton, of Birmingham, showing the rise in the prices of gold and corn, and the increase of bank notes relatively, from the year 1760 to the year 1815; and I believe it will be found a very curious document, and they seem all to have kept pace together.

I would ask, whether the witness made any observation on his last circuit, as to the quantity of stock?—Yes, I have; and particularly made inquiries upon the subject; and I think the live stock of the country greatly diminished in numbers.

You were going to state something further as to the currency?—I thought that chart a very important one to lay before the Committee.

I should like to ask the witness, what he thinks was the greatest rise in the price of land, during the restriction of the cash payments of the Bank?—It rose up to the year 1813, and fell immediately after; then there was a great re-action, when the funds got up to eighty; if they had continued at that price, there were few properties that were on sale, but what might have found buyers; but since the great fall from 83 to 66, there have been very few buyers of land; and the alarming state of the country is such, that it is now almost impossible to sell at any price.

You are speaking of the present time?—I am at this moment.

How much per cent did land rise between 1797 and 1813?—I think it trebled.

Do you attribute the whole effect to the alteration in the value of the currency?—I think mainly, but certainly not entirely; the increased population, and the increased luxurious habits of living, have tended to a rise of prices, which I should think, notwithstanding the depression at the present moment, will be to a certain degree permanent, because I cannot imagine that things will remain in the present depressed state, but that some rise must take place.

And from your great knowledge of farming, can you tell us whether it is possible that farmers can continue to cultivate the land, generally speaking, at the present price of corn?—Not without a most extraordinary abundant crop; such as we hardly ever know.

By saying that England might be considered as the bank of the world, did you mean that the increase of paper money in England produced an effect on the value of money abroad, or on the price of corn and other commodities there?—I am told, that since the determination of Parliament to return to cash payments, England is by no means in such credit with the world at large as it was before, and that foreign merchants have much less facility of drawing upon merchants here, than they used to have.

My question is with reference to the period antecedent to this?—I will add, that in consequence of this, the price of all raw materials upon the continent has generally fallen.

You think, that the fall which has taken place in the price of land, and in the price of corn and other commodities, is only in proportion to the increased value of money?—I think the fall has been greater than it ought to be, very much arising from panic and alarm, and the general report that rents cannot be collected.

Do you attribute no effects to the increased importation of corn from Ireland?—I have no doubt it has tended to lower the price of corn in England.

Do you attribute any part of the fall of the price of corn lately, to the last importation which took place when the ports were open?—I should think not; the great fall has been since the last harvest; there have been two successive good crops, which have had a great effect.

Have there not been three successive good crops, generally speaking?—I think not; there was a very short crop of straw in 1818, but it turned out more abundant than was expected; the crop of three years ago, 1818, I do not consider as an average crop, but the last two I consider very good, a great deal beyond the average, and although last year there was an abundant crop, there were certain districts so mildewed, that there was hardly any crop at all, and there the distress is quite intolerable; there are parts of Sussex and parts of Essex, where the crops were so mildewed, that they were as black as your hat.

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Was the crop in Essex, generally speaking, under or over an average crop?—
I should think under, in Essex.

Particularly in wheat?—Yes, I think so, in Essex.

Do you mean to have it understood, that the produce has been beyond an average crop?—I think the produce of the kingdom far beyond an average; there are districts in England which hardly feed themselves; I allude to Lancashire, Cheshire and Herefordshire, whence there is a stream of corn now going to the Birmingham market; in Northamptonshire, where I was lately, whence, in former years, corn used to go up to Birmingham, it now finds its way to Saint Neots, and by canal, towards London; the markets are quite changed from what they were.

Is not a great part in the fall of the price of corn, owing to the two succeeding good crops which you have mentioned?—I think not, entirely; I think it is a question of currency and good crops, and the want of demand, as I stated before, for the army and navy, and for Portugal and Spain.

Do you think the import contributed at all to it?—I think very little; there has been no imported corn in the market of late.

In the article of oats?—Oats fell in price immediately after the import; and then the ports were shut again.

Supposing there had been no alteration whatever, in the value of currency, would you not expect that two succeeding good harvests, would produce a considerable effect on the price of corn?—No doubt, it always has; I think that one good harvest does not produce a very great effect, but two succeeding crops always have.

Do you think that the price of corn would fall much more than in proportion to the increase of quantity?—Yes; and I believe on the contrary, that a short crop makes a rise, more than the shortness would justify; it has always the effect on a market, any thing that is short; if there is a short market, there is a great rise of price; and if an abundant one, a much greater fall in price than there ought to be.

Has not the corn law of this country, a tendency to raise the price of corn much beyond the price of other countries?—I should think so, beyond a doubt.

Beyond the average level of other countries?—Yes.

If then we have an abundant crop, must not the price of corn fall here, much more than it would if no such corn law existed; as until it is below the price of other countries, it cannot be advantageous to export it?—I should think so; I think that is obvious.

What proportion do you consider the oats that were imported, bear to the stated consumption of this country, last year?—I cannot answer that question; I have not looked into the detail of what it was at all.

Do you consider the oat crop beyond an average crop, for the last two years?—I do; the last year the harvest was particularly good; a great deal of oats grow on high and fen land, so that they very much depend on a good season for harvesting them.

Can you say, whether from the produce or what not, you do consider that the last two years were beyond an average crop?—Yes; they have both been good ones, and early harvests likewise.

Then you consider the introduction of 74,000 quarters of corn, over and above two average crops, was not the cause of lowering the price of corn?—There can be no doubt but it kept it lower than it would have been.

Lincolnshire is a great oat country?—Yes.

Pray did you hear, or do you know any thing of the effect of that importation on the corn of Lincolnshire?—No; I do not, in Lincolnshire.

Are you aware of the extent of the fall which took place in the price of oats, immediately after the opening of the ports?—I do not recollect exactly when the ports opened for oats.

Do you not know that the fall was considerable, after the ports were opened?—I know that oats fell so much that they shut the ports again; but I do not recollect the price they fell to, or what took place.

Do you not know what quantity was imported from the shores of the Baltic; I wish to know what number of quarters were imported into England, the last fortnight of the ports being opened?—I have not seen the return.

Are you not aware, that at the time of the opening of the ports, the price was upwards of 27s. a-quarter, and that the week after the ports were opened, that they fell to 18s.?—I was not aware of so great a fall; I think the previous high price had been partly nominal, occasioned by interested persons going into different markets, and

and buying a small quantity at a high price, in order to raise the average returns; people went to market in Wales for that purpose.

You mean the Welsh markets?—Yes.

At what rate of reduction, do you think, as compared with the price of 1812 or 1813, you could now let land to responsible tenants?—I think in good land, a reduction of thirty-three per cent; but there are districts of poor cold heavy clays, which the high price, during the war, tempted landlords to permit to be ploughed up; and it is extremely difficult to find a tenant at any rate whatever for them.

Does that apply to very light land?—To very poor land of every sort, but heavy clays require such an extraordinary degree of labour, as to be more difficult to manage; poor light land produces but little, but it is not so expensive.

In good lands there is a fall of thirty-three per cent?—Yes.

In land of a moderate quality, what fall is there?—I think a fall of one-third.

Do you mean that cold clay lands must be laid down again, so as to render them equally productive with grass lands; so as to render them productive and profitable?—It would be right to do so, inasmuch as is possible; it perhaps might take a century to restore them to the state they were in, before they were ploughed up.

You have mentioned, that instead of Birmingham being supplied from the country south of it, the stream had run in an eastern direction; and that it was wholly supplied from the counties in the north and west of the kingdom, which you describe as having had a peculiarly abundant harvest; are you aware, that a large portion of that influx of corn in that direction, arose from the increased importation from Ireland to Liverpool?—I am aware that there has been a considerable importation from Ireland into Lancashire; into Liverpool particularly, which, added to an abundant crop, has made the low price.

Of the two last harvests, which do you say has generally been the most abundant?—The last.

Of wheat in particular?—Oh! decidedly; the former harvest of 1819, although it was considered as an abundant harvest, yet the corn was very much down, and was very expensive to the farmer to get in; the last harvest the corn was standing, and it has been one of the finest harvests ever known in England.

Considerably beyond an average?—I think so, certainly.

Throughout the kingdom?—Yes, taking it generally; but in some districts there was hardly any.

But taking the whole kingdom, there was considerably beyond an average?—I think it was one of the most abundant crops this island ever knew.

Does your observation apply to Ireland?—I am not acquainted with that.

Are you of opinion, or does it consist with your observation, that the quantity of acres that have been brought into wheat tillage, has considerably increased since 1812?—No, I should not think since 1812; I should rather think decreased than increased; since the bad times in 1814, it has rather decreased, I should think; up to 1813, whilst the price was rising, and so long as there was a temptation to plough up land, there was an increase; but the tendency must have been towards decrease since.

Do you think, taking the average of 1819 and 1820, together, that the produce of the harvests was fully equal to the consumption of the country?—I should think more than the present consumption; I should think the consumption of the country not so large as it was in 1813; as since the distressed time in 1814, I am inclined to think the whole population is living in a less luxurious way than it was, down to the common labourer; and I doubt very much, whether there is so great a consumption as there was when times were all floating and going on well together.

What other reasons have you for thinking, that when the consumption of the country has increased in most of the articles which constitute the comfort and luxuries of the population, that the consumption of bread corn should diminish?—Because I see all classes of people with much less means than they used to have, and now they are all living at a lower rate.

Is it your opinion, if persons have to make an option between diminishing their consumption of sugar, tea, spirits, beer, soap, and other articles of that description, and their consumption of bread, that the diminution would fall on the latter article?—No, I should think not. You will allow me to add a word more to that answer. I am one of those who think, that an increase of cultivation in potatoes in England is a great injury; I think it lowers the rate of living of the people; and the increase of the cultivation of that root is quite extraordinary. I remember, twenty years ago, on the Essex road, when it did not extend above four miles; and it is now the

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universal crop for twelve miles. It was limited to within four miles of London, and now the whole way for twelve miles there is nothing else; and every where I go, I perceive the cultivation of potatoes to increase.

You do not take potatoes to be good food?—No, and I will tell you why; the potatoe is much more subject to oscillation in price, from being a crop that cannot be kept in hand, and must end the same year; and the oscillation in price is much greater than in the price of wheat. The variation of wheat is thought great, when it doubles itself in price; but the potatoe, in a very scarce year, is six times as high as a plentiful one.

Is the potatoe crop a more fickle crop than the wheat crop?—I think it is. In the eastern district where it much depends on the climate, and when there is not the same quantity of rain, it is not so thriving a crop as it is to the westward.

Have you any other reason to state for your opinion, as to the great fall in the price of corn?—No.

Are you acquainted with the agriculture of Ireland?—Yes.

Has the increase in the cultivation of wheat been very considerable in that country?—What period are you speaking of.

Since the war?—I have not been in Ireland since 1810.

Do you not suppose, that the cessation of the government contract for beef in Ireland has forced the land owners to turn a great portion of their grazing land into corn land?—Not having been in Ireland since 1810, I think I cannot practically answer that question.

You have stated to the Committee, that in your opinion the reduction of the rent of good land since the year 1813, as compared with the present rate at which farms can be let at a fair rent, on an average is about one-third?—I think so.

What has been the increase of the rent of the same land, from the time before the last war, up to the period of 1812 and 1813, to which you have alluded?—I think they are trebled.

Between 1797 and 1813?—Between 1797 and 1813, I think I can give a hundred instances, and state one after another.

Do you apply it generally all over the kingdom?—Yes; generally.

In what proportion do you suppose the charges of cultivation have increased, where the rents trebled from the period before the war, up to 1812 and 1813?—I am inclined to think that every thing bore about the same proportion.

—That the charges increased with the rent?—Yes, they did increase; I think they have fallen since; they have fallen as affecting the labourer, in a tremendous way.

In what proportion do you suppose those charges to have fallen since the decrease of the rent?—I think tithes have not fallen; I think that poor's rates certainly fell with the price of corn; but still, speaking relatively to 1794, they are infinitely higher than they used to be; tradesmen's bills have fallen considerably, and the price of labour very much indeed.

Do you see any reason to apprehend, that any of those charges will not return to their old proportion, when the reduced price of agricultural produce has continued for a length of years?—I neither think that tithes or poor's rates will.

What reason have you for thinking that poor rates will not accommodate themselves to the altered price of land?—The habits, I may say, of the southern parts of England are such, that labour is partly paid out of the poor's rate; and though the law is the same in the north, the lien which labourers fancy the law gives them for their existence on the poor rates, in all the southern districts of England, is unknown in the north.

Is not, generally, the price of agricultural labour nearly limited by the absolute necessity of the labourer?—I think, quite so.

—But as there is a necessity for food and for clothing, if the price of food and clothing are reduced, must not the price of that labour, in the same proportion, be reduced?—I think, not quite so; I think the population have so increased, and among other things which have ceased since the war, is the demand for labour; I recollect, up to 1813, we found it difficult to get labourers to collect the harvest; I myself, I have, when a farmer, been alarmed, lest I should not find hands to get the corn in before it was too ripe; but the demand for men for the navy and army having ceased, labourers are so abundant, that they look for existence, house rent in particular, to the parish, having a notion that the parish is obliged to find them a home, and I think that this greatly increased poor population will render the increase in the poor rates permanent to a certain degree.

But

But are you not of opinion, that they will come down nearly in proportion to the reduction of prices?—I think they have come already too much so, and I think the price of labour too low.

I am speaking of poor rates?—They will ultimately fall, but I think they will not fall as low as they were.

In your opinion, are the poor rates and agricultural labour so mixed together, that it is very difficult to distinguish, in reasoning, one from the other?—In agricultural districts they are much mixed together.

You have stated, that the tithes have not generally been reduced upon the reduction of the value of agricultural produce; do you not consider this as one of the principal evils resulting from the recent alteration in our currency?—Yes, I think so.

Be so good as to state, generally, your opinion, how the alteration of currency has operated on the agricultural distress?—I certainly think, that it is a main and great reason of the distress.

You take it to be the great and main reason of the distress?—I attribute it more to a change of currency than any other thing.

How do you take it to operate upon it?—In a general fall of prices.

Do you mean to say, that the prices, though nominally fallen, are not really so, while the incumbrances have remained the same; while the incumbrances upon the land-owner have prevented him giving the land occupier a corresponding relief in the amount of his rent?—Incumbrances upon estates are individual instances, and I know of nothing which has fallen at so great a rate as the use of money. I know many instances of estates, incumbered with annuities, which upon the late rise in the funds, were directly paid off, and reduced from a payment of ten per cent, probably to five per cent. The great incumbrance of marriage settlements, and natural mortgages, and those things, must remain the same; and whatever diminution there is in rent, that must eventually fall upon the owner of the soil.

Is it not a fact, that there has been a great diminution in the usual accommodation to farmers, from the country banks?—To a wonderful degree; I think that up to the year 1813, between 1796 and 1813, there was an accommodation given by the country bankers to farmers, and all persons in trade, to a most unwholesome degree, if I may use the expression. I say that the failure of all those banks (where they were not persons of very great capital,) in 1813, was partly in consequence of that; and though the failures were hurtful to a very great extent, at the moment, I am of opinion, that they must be of great good to the country in the long run. I have often heard it used as an argument by gentlemen, that farmers need not take the country bank notes unless they please; but I say, that it is utterly impossible for them to take other than the notes of the provincial bank of the market town, where they take their produce to market; and the distress which I have seen experienced by farmers in different districts, on the failure of a great country bank, has been very striking indeed.

When was the period of the greatest facility of that sort of accommodation which you have alluded to?—Up to the year 1813 there were banks in almost all parts of England, forcing their paper into circulation at an enormous expense to themselves; and, in most instances, it has been done to their own ruin. There were bankers, who gave commission, and they sent persons to the markets to take up notes of other bankers; and these people were called money changers; and commission was paid for doing it in this way. In every instance where I have traced such commission transactions, I have found that failure has certainly ensued. No banker can afford to pay for getting his notes out over his counter.

Do you not consider that that circumstance contributed mainly to the very high prices at that period?—I think so. I think the facility with which money could be borrowed at that time, was partly the cause of them. I know no persons more distressed at this time, than farmers who were considered very opulent persons up to the period I am speaking of, namely in 1813. They were persons who purchased their own estates, and whose measure of value was seldom looked to, as to their intrinsic worth; it was merely a question of, how much money they could raise in order to pay for them. At that time no person bought an estate too dear; at that time those estates were incumbered by mortgages, and there are very few of them which the buyers would not gladly bring to sale at a depression of 10 or 20 per cent less than they cost them; and there are many instances in which they would gladly escape at a greater loss; but, some of these estates are mortgaged for more than they are

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now actually worth, and the buyer has lost the earnings of his life, which was the surplus he had paid beyond the money he had borrowed on mortgage.

Did you ever hear, in the course of transactions at that period, either on the part of the land purchasers or of persons who lent money on mortgage, any opinion that the value of money was likely to undergo any great alteration in time of peace?—The rise in prices was gradual, and with the majority of persons, I believe imperceptible, and every body was acting as if no bad times were ever to take place.

Has not then the alteration in the currency, first by rendering money less valuable, and since by rendering it more valuable than it was, been the cause of deceiving and ruining a great many industrious persons who were in a state of opulence and ease?—I have observed it most particularly, and to an extraordinary extent.

Have not those fatal consequences resulted, mainly, since the period that money has become more valuable?—They were unknown before. Up to the year 1813, one man might buy his estate dearer than another; but none appeared to be too dear, for they might always be sold a year or two after for a higher price than had been given for them.

Can you state to the Committee, the causes which produced such general failure among the country bankers in the year 1813?—A want of confidence, and a general opinion, that there would be very soon a return to cash payments; I think that was the chief cause of it; there was a prevailing opinion, that as soon as the peace came there would be a return to cash payments.

You are aware, that by the charter of the Bank of England, no more than six persons can associate themselves as bankers in England?—Yes.

Do you not think, that if that clause was taken away, it would produce a beneficial effect upon the general banking system in England?—I am quite of that opinion; it is a favorite opinion of mine, and has been long so.

Are you of opinion, that the progressive diminution of the value of money, which led to such improvident speculations prior to the year 1813, could have been continued indefinitely, without a greater shock to industry and capital than that which it has now experienced?—I have long been of opinion, that the distress we are now experiencing, must occur; and it has been with me merely a question on what generation it was to fall.

Would it have been greater, if the depreciation of currency had continued longer, and had been carried to a greater extent?—If it had, I think there must have been a universal bankruptcy.

You stated, that many persons had lost the profits of a life of industry, by the speculations into which they were deluded by the state of our currency, prior to 1813; I wish to ask you, whether the state of the currency did not also facilitate gambling speculations in all the pursuits of industry, by which others have made undue profits?—I have no doubt that many made large profits, and large fortunes, during the rise of prices; and I have given a strong instance of that, in the sale of the Sheriffs Linch estate.

Then are you of opinion, that one of the greatest evils to which the country has been exposed, is the want of some fixed standard by which to regulate the value of its currency?—I cannot imagine that there can be any legitimate standard, but that of the precious metals, or paper convertible into them.

Then, supposing the want of it, does it follow that it tends to derange the security of all property?—There can be no doubt about it; and to create a change of property.

And to delay industry in its pursuit?—There can be no doubt of it.

But supposing Parliament to have come to a determination, that it was necessary, for the protection of all persons, to return to a fixed standard of money, would it not have prevented much of the distress which you have explained, if that standard had been fixed near to the actual value of money at the time of its being so fixed?—I think that altering the weight of gold and silver (for I apprehend that is your meaning) with some nominal prices attached to it, would be creating an artificial standard that could never remain in the long run.

You have stated, that the great distress occurred in 1814?—Yes; prices increased up to 1813, but fell from that time.

Great distress occurred at that time from the general failure of country banks?—Yes; I think that the first great distress was the failure of the country banks.

You have stated, that the great distress experienced by the occupiers of land took place

place soon after 1813, owing to an extensive failure of country banks and a consequent diminution of accommodation, which up to that time had fed the speculations of the occupiers of land; now the law which restored the currency to its former standard was passed in 1819?—Yes.

Does it not follow, that the system of being without a fixed standard, has a tendency to produce the evil which has been complained of, of revulsion and distress?—I think most likely; but although the act passed in 1819, the Bullion Report was promulgated in 1810, and the discussion, session after session, altered the public opinion, with regard to the security of country banks; I think their failures are to be dated from that time.

Should you think the inconveniences attending the restoration of the value of currency of any very great importance, if the difference of the value to which it was to be restored was only four per cent?—I think that if the depreciation was no more than four per cent, it would hardly be felt by the land-owner, or occupier of land.

Is not rent regulated by the price of corn?—Rent is regulated by the price of the general produce of land.

With the low price of the produce of land, can the landlord keep up the rent after the expiration of the lease of the tenant?—Certainly not; and it is most difficult even during the existence of the lease, much more after.

In consequence of the increased value of currency, if that be the cause of the fall of price in corn, will not the landlord be obliged by the effect of competition, to lower his tenant's rent?—It lowers itself; because the tenant turns out, and you must let it at the most you can get for it.

The landlord has not the power of keeping up his rent then?—Certainly not.

Does the alteration in the value of currency, produce any effect upon the collective riches of the country?—I think it does, and my reasons are, that it tends to emigration, and that too in various ways; emigration of persons in numbers; of persons who derive considerable incomes, that used to be spent at home; emigration of manufacturers also. I am told, as to the victualling of many of our merchantmen, that finding prices lower on the continent than in England, they go to ports in the neighbourhood of England, to be victualled out for long voyages.

When money was depreciating in value, were not landholders benefited by being enabled to pay mortgages, and other incumbrances, with less than the amount of the real value?—There can be no doubt about it. While the prices were increasing, the ultimate balance of revenue left to the owner of the soil was so much enlarged, that he could discharge its incumbrance with much less difficulty.

Have the landlords suffered more from the late restriction of the value of the currency, than they were benefited by the former fall in its value?—I think, if this present depression were to continue, there would be a universal march of ruin; I am one of those who think that it cannot last to this degree much longer; if prices rally, I should say, that we were in a better state than we were thirty years ago.

Is not the general distress arising out of the alteration of the currency, in some degree regulated according to the departure of the currency from its regular value?—To a degree no doubt it is, but I think that the great improvement which has taken place in this country, the increase of wealth and population, the number of houses we see built, and the improvement in roads; every thing has tended to a permanent rise, compared with any distant former period.

Under the difficulties to which you have alluded as arising out of the recent alteration in our currency, can you look forward to any increase in demand for labour, so as to bring the population of this country into such a state of employment as shall be advantageous both to those who employ, and to those who are employed?—I have no doubt but that we have come to something like the worst, and that there will be a general improved condition of society, but I can hardly expect, that the demand for labour can or will at all equal what it was in war time.

Although the rents must always depend upon the ability of the farmer or occupier to pay them, has not the altered value of money had the effect of inducing land-owners to press the occupiers of land to pay higher rents than they can afford?—I do not think with the present prices of produce, that the occupiers of land can pay any thing like the present rent; and I have already stated my opinion, that on the best average quality of land, they cannot do so within thirty-three per cent or one-third; but that on very poor land they cannot pay their rent at all. I do not know how it is possible to be paid at the present price of produce.

Does not the reluctance on the part of the land-owner to reduce the amount of his nominal income, when he is frequently loaded with heavy incumbrances, induce him

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to wait too long in admitting a reduction of the rent?—I think I have seen this in many instances, and have myself acted upon it. When the bad times as they were called, occurred in the year 1814, I recommended to my employers a general fall of rent upon all land let since 1808; and of those estates which have been under my care, where my advice was followed, the rents have been regularly received; and I think if such a fall had not taken place, many of those tenants would now be in a state of insolvency; and in recent instances, where I have been called in and examined large estates where there are long arrears standing upon them, I think they would have been in a very different condition, had a fall been allowed at the period to which I am now speaking.

And does not, on the other hand, the reluctance on the part of the tenant to quit a home and the only profession that he is capable of, lead him to submit to demands on the part of the landlord, which do not leave him a fair remuneration for his time and trouble?—I know numerous instances of tenants adhering to the soil on which probably they were born, without the slightest knowledge of the real rent which they ought to pay, and there remaining with the fall of prices, until their whole property has been destroyed and lost.

Are there not then practical circumstances, arising from the habits and feelings of people, which prevent frequently the operation of the sound principles of political economy in the regulations of the amount of rent?—I have no doubt about it; but such is the distress at present, in some districts, that it is not at all a question of option on the part of either landlord or tenant; the farms are thrown up, and the difficulty is to find a tenant, at almost any rent; there are parts of Sussex and parts of Kent, of which I do not know what is to be the state in another year. I was informed the other day, in the neighbourhood of Penshurst, that there were notices to the landlords of giving up eight thousand acres in that district next Michaelmas. It is very material, perhaps, to observe, that in that district there is a great deal of good land, and, probably, the peculiar distress is owing to the great speculations to which the cultivators entered in the growth of hops.

It is not your opinion that good land will go out of cultivation, is it?—Not generally; this is peculiarly circumstanced; but I am not, certainly, apprehensive that good lands will want tenants, or go out of cultivation; I never was so much impressed as I am at this period as to the quality of land.

Would not this difficulty and confusion, which you state to exist between landlord and tenant, have been mainly avoided, if, though fixing permanently a standard of value, we had left that standard at the value and rate it was then at?—I am of opinion that such a standard would have been artificial; I think it would not have lasted; I may be wrong, but I think so.

In your opinion, taking into your consideration the facilities arising from the operation of country banks, what do you consider to be the altered value of money now, as compared with the period when money was most abundant and depreciated?—I do not feel competent to answer as to the degree.

As a land surveyor, would you think that you were doing the best possible service to your principal, the landlord, and acting in the kindest manner towards his tenants, in cases where the present rents cannot be maintained, to recommend an immediate reduction, instead of allowing any accumulation of arrear, under the expectation of a change in the circumstances of the tenant?—I should much prefer a reduction to permitting a rental to get into a state of arrear; a rental in arrear renders tenantry in a state of heartless despondency, and it puts an end to their industry; and I hardly know any instance of a great one being got over at all.

Must not the possibility of that abatement in rent, depend principally upon a reduction in the burthens, as affecting land?—Upon the burthens, and upon the price of produce.

Would the abstaining from making that necessary reduction of rent, enable any proprietor of land, better to bear any burthens that he may labour under?—I think that any proprietor, looking to his interest for any length of time, would serve himself by such a reduction.

Did you ever form any opinion, or calculation, as to the number of persons that are subsisting by their labour on arable land, compared with those that are subsisting by their labour on pasture land?—No, I never did; the number of persons actually subsisting on pasture land is very small; a shepherd, for instance, can take care of many hundred acres, watching his sheep; the number subsisting on pasture land is very small indeed, as compared with arable land, but I have never made out the proportion.

Must

Must not, then, the general subsistence of the poor, materially depend on the demand for labour on arable land?—There can be no doubt of it.

Is not a demand for labour, even with a high price of corn, more advantageous to labourers than a low price of corn, without a demand for labourers?—Labour is the poor man's capital; withhold that demand, and he must cease to exist.

I understand you to state, that you have no apprehension of good land going out of cultivation; must not the poor who are now subsisting by their labour on the light lands, which are liable to go out of cultivation, flee for their subsistence, from that land to land of a better quality?—I think that depends much on the question of population; the good land will not employ more than the persons upon it.

When you stated that the rents had tripled, between 1794 and 1813, do you mean to state, that the whole rental of the kingdom, taken as one aggregate, was tripled within that period?—No; I think upon the great old estates, there was not that great rise, but when persons purchased land, then the greatest rents were obtained that were possible.

Then having reference to those estates, upon which the rise has not been carried to the greatest extent, are they not in the same situation, in some degree, as tithes, namely, that they will not suffer and will not be called on to make so large an abatement in their rents, as those which let at a higher price?—Of course they will not suffer in the same degree; I am not one of those, who are of opinion, that extreme low rents are beneficial to any party; a fair rent between man and man, creates that exertion which is absolutely necessary for the cultivation of land.

When you speak of rents tripled, you mean that the rents have been tripled when the highest possible rent has been procured, by the highest competition?—I do.

Without reference to any former rent?—Yes, all the great estates; the great proprietors, I mean, with their ten and twenty thousand pounds a-year; I never knew them let at the rate small property was let at.

What proportion, do you think, of the land of the country, has been under the system of carrying the rents to the utmost that could be obtained, as compared to those, on which there has been something of consideration, with reference to the tenantry as on the large estates?—I think that there has been generally a great rise, but as to the proportion of those who attained the most they could get, as compared with the others, I cannot speak to that circumstance.

Do you apprehend that on the estates where the more mitigated system of increasing the rent has prevailed, that there is at this period much distress, or arrears of rent?—Upon cold land; upon cold bad lands, there are.

With reference to your opinion, that an abatement of rent to the extent of thirty-three per cent, ought to be made upon the rents of 1812; was that opinion given with reference to those lands upon which the rents had been tripled since 1794, and the system followed up, of obtaining the highest rate of rents possible; or with reference to that more mitigated system of rent, which you state has prevailed on many large estates?—Drawing the comparison between the high rates which had been carried up to 1813, and the present rate of rent.

Then it follows, that a diminution of less than thirty-three per cent, would be sufficient on the second description of property?—Upon some of the very large estates that have not been high let, they will do without any great diminution, probably; upon the great estates where the rents have never been raised highly, I do not think that they will diminish much; I think that if the present prices are to continue, and there should be a short crop, it would ruin every body.

Do you conceive it possible that the present prices can continue, the corn laws remaining as they are, if the crop is not a very abundant one?—No, I should think not; I think there is a wonderful quantity of corn in the country; I now think that there is as much corn left in the country, as generally, in common years, there is after harvest.

Supposing that there should only be an average crop for two or three years, do you think that the prices would not be materially higher than they are now?—I do think that if you were to continue to have an average crop for two or three years, you would not have a great rise of price.

You have stated, that the last year's was an abundant crop?—Yes, larger than an average crop; I think that if you were to have, for the next two or three years, fair average crops, it would leave you with a great stock in hand.

Assume that the stock in hand was gone, and that we should have average crops for an average number of years, what do you think would be the result then?—Why I think you would have a rise in prices.

Is not the rise in the price of corn materially affected by the demand for labour?—Yes; I think it must be.

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(5 April.)

You have been speaking of the light, poor, and thin clay lands, as likely to go out of cultivation; have you ever formed any opinion as to the number of acres that might fall under that denomination?—No, I have not.

You must be aware, that it extends over a very great portion of this kingdom?—Over a very great tract of country; no doubt of it.

When you stated as to the diminution of rent, that the diminution of the rent ought to be to the extent of a third, as compared with the highest rent of 1812, by reference, to what price of wheat do you think those highest rents were fixed?—Wheat was fixed at twenty-five pounds per load; wheat, with an abundant good crop, did then produce twenty-five pounds per load. In 1812, when the high rent was fixed; from 1808 to 1812, it was fixed at the rate of five pounds per quarter.

Are you not of opinion, that even when rents were collected with reference to so high a price as that, that such was the spirit and speculation, that tenders were made even on higher calculations, on the prospect of a still further advance on the price of corn?—Yes; and I think that the cultivator was justified in paying a high rate at that time, for so great a length of time as the high prices continued. I have known many instances of individuals laying by money in government securities, and I might almost state, that it was the constant habit of every prudent farmer, to carry some money to his country attorney to put out on mortgage, or to lay out money in the funds. That was, more or less, the practice when they were paying the highest rents of all.

On the average of the last seven years, looking both to the produce and the rents; what would you state to be the result of your observations, as to whether the tenants and occupiers of land, have been gaining or losing?—There has been a waste of farmers capital, beyond all doubt; there can be no doubt of that.

On the average of seven years?—I think there can be no doubt of it.

Do you attribute that to the variation of the seasons, or to the increased demand on the part of the landlord for rents, generally speaking; or to any other cause?—I attribute it to the alteration of the currency which affects all the payments of the farmer, and not to the high rent alone.

A part of the produce of very large estates generally is not derived from rent, but from timber and other articles of production which the landlord holds in his own hand, and also the woods and coppices; now you have stated that there has been a considerable diminution in the money price of these articles, or some of them?—I think less in timber than in any thing else, but more in copse wood; there is a great fall in copse wood.

You have stated that there has been a considerable diminution in the money price of these articles which I have mentioned?—Yes.

Bark has fallen considerably, has it not?—It is astonishing how much bark has fallen; it has fallen a great deal.

I wish to ask you, if it were possible that the rents alone should not be affected by the alteration in the value of money, whether a person owning an estate, a considerable portion of which was of the description to which I have just now referred, would not be a very great sufferer, as compared to those persons whose whole income was derived from the rent?—I think he would be quite as great a sufferer; I think so, undoubtedly.

Are you aware, that a considerable portion of the estates in Sussex and Kent, on an average of twenty years, have produced a greater return from timber than from rent, even under the very high rents?—I know some estates in those counties, where rent has never been considered much of an object, but timber has been the great and principal thing cultivated upon them.

What is the market for copse wood?—Hop poles then are the things it is chiefly and principally used for.

What is the market for that sort of produce now?—It depends entirely upon where it is.

For instance, in Sussex?—Hop poles are things which now there is no sale for; there is no demand whatever for hop poles.

Would not that land which you have described to the Committee, be better applied to the growth of timber, than to the growth of corn?—Some parts of it might be, certainly, but then there is the expense of plantation, which is excessively heavy.

Has not the high price of corn, had the effect of converting into tillage, much land that was much better employed in the growth of timber?—Yes.

In the growth of timber or in pasture?—In pasture it has, decidedly.

Veneris, 6^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Edward Wakefield, Esq.

Again Called in; and Examined.

*E. Wakefield,
Esq.*

(6 April.)

CAN you form any idea of the average produce, per acre, in wheat and barley, upon all land now under tillage?—I have formed an opinion certainly; it is a subject that I have been thinking of for many years; it is a general question, difficult to be answered with any minuteness: I think the opinion I have formed, agrees with that of the late Mr. Arthur Young, that the average of England does not exceed 17 bushels of wheat per acre; the difference in the produce of land, to the eye apparently of the same quality, in colour and texture, in the west and in the east of England, is quite extraordinary; land which I have examined, particularly in Devonshire, which, from its appearance, I should rate to be almost of as good quality, as any I have ever seen, does not produce an average quantity of above twenty bushels; land of the same appearance, on the sea coast of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Kent, is thought to give a bad crop, if it does not produce forty bushels.

Are you sufficiently acquainted with the eastern part of the kingdom, to give the Committee any idea of what the average produce per acre, is in that quarter?—Speaking merely of the sea coast, which is almost the best, and highest cultivated land in England, the average crop is very little short of forty bushels an acre. I speak of Kent, Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk.

What should you state as the average of the interior of those counties?—Much less; I mean to speak of a narrow district of superior quality. I should suppose three quarters an acre the average produce of the interior, and the very light parts of Norfolk much less than that I should think; there are some parts of Norfolk too light to attempt to grow wheat at all upon them.

What should you state as the average produce of the light and cold clay lands, of which you have spoken as likely to go out of cultivation?—About twelve bushels, per acre of wheat.

Must not the cultivation of the better soils be rendered infinitely less profitable, by the increase of burden thrown upon them, by being obliged to maintain those who have heretofore been used to be maintained by their employments on worse soils?—There is no doubt, if the people are taken off the poor soil and put on to any other, the burden of maintaining the transfer of such a population, must greatly increase the charge upon the land upon which it has fallen.

Then the cultivation of land altogether must be reduced to uncertainty; the best land going out of cultivation the last?—Supposing the march of universal ruin, it will begin with the poor land, and according to its quality, if it is to go on, the best land will be the last to go out of cultivation.

Must it not in that case be regulated by population?—Population must produce a considerable effect upon it; but I think this is arguing on an extreme case.

Has or has not the agriculture of such parts of the kingdom as you are acquainted with, deteriorated within the last two years?—I think it has obviously deteriorated since the year 1814, since the fall; not merely the last two years, but since the bad times occurred in 1814.

Did it not recruit during the year 1817 and part of 1818?—Yes; I think that as the times were better, the farmers had more means, and were returning to their old system of cultivation, which is better than the one they are now pursuing; as the farmers were crippled in their means, they farmed worse no doubt.

Does not the productiveness of land depend more upon the capital and skill employed in the cultivation of it, than upon the soil itself?—I have no doubt about it, because a skilful farmer with capital will pay rent where another will pay none.

The production depends more upon the capital expended than it does upon the soil?—I do not think that exactly; soil is the foundation of every thing, I think capital applied to soil creates vast production.

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(6 April.)

Where capital is employed on middling soil, would that soil produce, with great capital and skill, more than the best soil without?—The very fairest soils are cultivated at the least expense as far as cultivation goes; but frequently require the greatest capital per acre.

What extent of such soils as will do with small capital and small exertions is there in the kingdom?—Not a great proportion by any means.

Must it, with the present prices paid for grain, inevitably ensue, that there must be a great decrease of production?—I have no doubt of it; with a continuation of those prices a great deal of land will be thrown out of occupation.

Must not the production decrease if the prices remain as they are?—Yes; I have no doubt of it.

Do you believe that the great produce of the late crop has been any means of producing the present low prices?—I think the general average crop of last year was so great, that it has had a very great effect throughout the kingdom; there are many districts, however, where there was hardly any crop.

Do you mean to say, that the crop of last year was universally good?—Generally speaking, I think it far beyond an average crop; I think it one of the greatest crops of corn England has ever known.

As you have stated what you consider the average produce of wheat per acre throughout the kingdom; can you state to the Committee what the average produce is on the very best land you know?—When I said forty bushels an acre, I was speaking of a district that I consider not only the best soil in England, but in the highest state of cultivation, farmed with both skill and capital.

What is the average produce on the very worst land which you know to be in cultivation?—I do not believe that the very poor lands produce above eight bushels per acre.

What is the quantity of seed sown upon such ground as that?—The poorer the land, the greater quantity of seed is required; the quantity of seed must be, upon the poorest soils, rather above three bushels than below; upon the good land, not above two.

Then the balance of production would be only five bushels?—Yes.

Do you believe any man, but a mad man, would sow wheat a second time upon that ground?—I think any person who used his reason would not.

Do you think any farmer in the kingdom would make the experiment?—In Wales, where the people live at a very low rate, they remain doing it for years, with an extraordinary short crop, and appear to pay a very high rent; but the Norfolk or Suffolk farmers would not take it at any rent; it depends upon the sort of tenant.

When you speak of forty bushels an acre, to what extent of surface should you apply that?—I apply it also to the sea coasts of Sussex; I do not know any land more productive than the edge of the South Downs, the vales next to the sea; it is the first corn that comes to harvest in England; and an early harvest is always the most productive; there is less risk about it, as to weather; it is the least subject to mildew; corn that ripens early is seldom subject to mildew.

Do you imagine, that the low discouraging price of corn for the last year, has affected the sowing this spring?—No, I do not think it has; I think, if it was to continue another year, it would; because, I think, a vast deal of land would be thrown up to the landlord, and not cultivated at all.

Would not the consequence be, a great deficiency in the produce of this country below its consumption?—I have no doubt the produce would greatly lessen; but whether below its consumption I can hardly say.

Is there not an idea, that the island of Great Britain does not produce sufficient corn for itself by two months consumption?—That does not appear to be the case the two last years; there has been very little foreign corn brought in.

Do you think, if the low price of corn continues, it will prevent spring sowing, and shorten very much the produce of the country?—No doubt of it, if it continues; but not this year.

And make an application to foreign countries for corn more necessary?—It must depend upon the length of time for which low prices continue; if those low prices continue for a year or two, there will be an immense quantity of land put out of cultivation.

Then that will render the country more dependant on foreign nations for her supply?—Of course that must be the case, if the land goes out of cultivation; corn must be brought in to feed the people.

Can you state, what quantity of free foreign corn was left on hand, when the ports were open, in 1819?—The foreign corn trade I am not concerned in; being greatly occupied

occupied in letting land, and upon gentlemen's estates; I seldom have an opportunity of attending a corn market.

You know probably that there is at present, a quantity of free foreign corn in the market?—Not in the home market; I have heard that there is a great deal under the King's locks for the foreign market.

You have heard there is a quantity under lock, of that brought in, in 1819?—So I have heard.

Do you think the importation of 1819 was rendered necessary by the deficiency in the home growth in 1818?—I do not think the crop of 1818 a large crop; but I by no means now think it was a very deficient crop; the appearance in the early part of the season, was that of an almost total failure, but the straw produced greatly.

If land is thrown out of cultivation, in the way stated in a late question, will not that have the effect of raising the price of corn, in the home market?—I think it must.

Must it not rise to above eighty shillings, before it can, under the present law, be imported?—No doubt of it.

Is it possible that the farmers can continue to pay their present rents, tithes, taxes and poor's rates, at the low prices of corn, which they now have?—I think not.

Must not the extensive purchases made of foreign corn, in the years 1817, 1818 and 1819, for a very considerable time, disable the usual purchasers of British corn from dealing so largely with the British grower, as they otherwise would have done?—It must have some effect, but whilst the price of corn is so much below that which will open the ports, I cannot suppose it to produce a great deal.

Must not a market, to be a good market, be always such as admits of a certain degree of speculation; and not merely a market of supply from hand to mouth?—Large speculators coming into a market, of course must increase the price, but it strikes me the best speculator to keep corn for Great Britain is the wealthy farmer, who keeps it in the straw, and that I know to be the case; at the present moment I know many large farmers who have not threshed out a single handful, who will not sell at the present prices.

Do you not conceive it would be a great advantage to the country if there were encouragement given to warehouse home corn instead of foreign corn?—It is, I think, an hypothetical case; but admitting such a circumstance to take place, an immediate benefit to the farmer would accrue, but I do not know the means of keeping corn for a great length of time.

Do you think it would be worth the while of any British farmer to attempt to warehouse British corn when he can purchase foreign corn at so much lower a price, and warehouse it?—I think it quite worth while for any farmer to warehouse his corn in his stacks at this time, if I may be allowed to use the term.

What possible motive could the farmer have at any time to warehouse the produce of his farm, in an expensive warehouse belonging to another person, with all the charges upon it?—I never heard of a farmer attempting that.

Is it not possible, if at any time corn in this country became so extremely cheap that the farmer did not think it proper to take it to market, provided he could do without the money it would produce at market, to keep that corn and not send it to market, rather than to send it to a glutted and too cheap a market?—There are many now who do so; I know many individuals who are acting upon that at this moment.

Is there any thing to prevent a farmer warehousing his corn at this moment?—I hardly know how a farmer can warehouse his corn; it is an extraordinary circumstance for a farmer to lay up his corn after it is threshed; and I should no longer call him a farmer, but a corn merchant.

The question refers to the British merchant attempting to speculate in British corn instead of foreign corn, and warehousing that article?—That must entirely depend on the opinion the individual may form, and what he supposes will be the price of corn some time hence.

Are you of opinion, that if a well-founded opinion prevailed that British corn, the average of which is about fifty-four shillings, would rise twenty-five per cent within the next twelvemonth, there would be any want either of capital or speculation, for the purchase of British corn?—No; I have no doubt there would be plenty of buyers if they were confident of getting such a profit.

A rise of twenty-five per cent on fifty-four, would bring the price of British corn to sixty-seven and sixpence, would it not?—Yes.

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Esq.

(6 April.)

At sixty-seven and sixpence would not the person so speculating with British corn, still retain the monopoly of the home market, as against foreign corn?—Certainly.

Then would it not be a much more advantageous and safe speculation at the present prices, should there be a prospect of a rise in the commodity, to speculate in British corn, which enjoys the monopoly of the market up to eighty shillings, rather than in foreign corn, which cannot be admitted at all, until an uncertain and indefinite period, at which the price may exceed eighty shillings?—I think that would depend upon what price he can buy foreign corn abroad for.

Would it not also depend upon the probability of that foreign corn being admissible within some limited period to the British market?—No doubt.

Then supposing the probability to be against the prices being such as to admit foreign corn to the British market for two years to come, as it has been excluded for two years now gone by; which do you think would be the wisest speculation, to purchase British corn at fifty-four, or foreign corn at thirty-five, with a view to the British market?—British corn, beyond a doubt.

Have you any reason to believe, that there will be such a rise in the price of corn, as that supposed in the question?—My opinion is, that there will not; my opinion is, that there is more corn in the kingdom at this season of the year, than there is in many years immediately after the harvest.

You speak of corn the growth of Great Britain or Ireland?—Yes.

Not including the warehoused corn?—No.

Do not you think the farmer is prevented by his distress from speculating, by keeping back his own corn from sale?—Many small farmers and poor farmers have thrashed out their corn and carried it to market; but I know very distressed persons upon estates, the rents of which have been in arrear two or three years, some longer, whose landlords have been kind enough not to demand payment of the rents, who have not threshed out a handful.

Do you consider that the corn so kept back, reaches to any great amount in quantity?—Yes; I think to a very great amount.

If the importer of foreign corn was prohibited, by high duty, from speculating in foreign corn, would he not embark his money in the purchase of that corn you have been speaking of?—I hardly know, for I apprehend the speculator in foreign corn is looking to a double market; that the man who buys foreign corn takes the chance of the ports being opened here, and if they are not, it is merely transferred over to some other place of course; therefore I think the speculators in foreign corn, who are generally men of large capitals, do it with a large view, and not looking merely to one market.

Bearing this in your recollection, do you not conceive, that, with reference to the consumption of this country, and a rise in price in this country, they would still speculate in the corn you have described as being retained in the hands of the farmer?—I think they might, to a certain degree.

To whatever degree that speculation was maintained, do you not conceive that it would be an encouragement to the farming interest?—No doubt about it.

What countries in Europe, besides Great Britain, are purchasers of grain?—I believe there is a great quantity of grain, at this time, shipping for Italy.

You have spoken of corn being in the hands of wealthy farmers; is that mostly thrashed or unthrashed?—Unthrashed; it is in the straw.

Can any farmer keep a considerable quantity of corn in the straw without great injury?—I think he suffers; the corn wastes considerably with vermin.

Can he spare the straw?—There is his greatest difficulty.

Do you think the corn wastes more in the straw than when it is thrashed?—No; I have seen corn laid out in granaries annihilated, picked out with pick-axes, if it lies two years; it depends upon the season and upon the way in which it was laid up. British corn is seldom bought for speculation on this account; there is no such business pursued.

Are you not aware, that rich farmers have, of late years, been in the habit of placing their grain in granaries?—I have not known it.

If the rise in the price of corn, depended upon the deficiency in the growth at home, would not the foreign corn now warehoused, have an immediate effect upon the home market, so as to prevent its rising to that extent, that the deficiency itself, perhaps, might justify?—No doubt it would lower the price of corn.

Would it before the ports opened, or afterwards?—When the prices rose to be so near to the opening the ports, it would have an effect upon the market, certainly.

In preventing a rise to that price at which the ports would open?—Certainly.

Would

(6 April.)

Would not that be one beneficial effect under the present law, to the British grower, inasmuch as it would shut out both the foreign stock of corn on hand here, and prevent a fresh importation for the home market?—No doubt of it.

What would be the immediate effect on the market, if the ports should open with a large quantity in warehouse?—It would create a considerable fall in price, certainly.

Would not that depend upon the deficiency?—No doubt of it.

Would there not be, provided the prices came to nearly the price of opening, a great competition between the grower and the speculator, one to force up the market to open the ports, and the other to lower the market to keep them shut, and so a great deal of false speculation be occasioned?—I think there most likely would.

Do you know how long any of the best foreign corn that you have seen, will keep, when warehoused?—No; I do not know enough of the business of the foreign corn dealer.

In your opinion, is the capital employed in land diminishing?—I think it is wasting very much.

Do you think it has already so much diminished as to injure the agriculture of the country?—I think it has, to a certain degree.

Do you not think, that if the present low prices of corn were to continue, very serious injury must arise to the agriculture of the country?—I have no doubt of it.

Do you not suppose the present price to be, in a great degree, the effect of the very abundant harvest of the last year, superadded to the good harvest of the year preceding?—I think that has had a great effect, but by no means the only one.

What is your opinion with respect to the present corn law, as a protection of the farmer?—It must act as a protection to him, certainly.

Do you mean a sufficient protection?—If it should raise the price of corn up to 10 s. a bushel, or 80 s. a quarter, I think the farmer would do very well at that price.

Do you think it will produce that effect?—No; I do not think it will.

Can it produce any effect if we grew our own consumption?—I apprehend, in that case, any law of the sort would be a nullity.

If we do not grow our own consumption, would it then be a sufficient protection?—I think, if we did not grow our own consumption, it would have the immediate effect of raising the price of wheat to 80 s.

What would be its subsequent effect on the market?—So long as there was a deficiency of crop to maintain the country, the price would be kept up, I suppose, to the price of import.

Is not a price exceeding 80 s. held by the legislature to be, as the law now stands, the evidence of a deficiency for the supply of the consumption of the country?—I should consider the act of the legislature to mean so, certainly.

Is not the effect of the law, in a case where there is a deficient crop, such as immediately to create a fall in the price; and that the consequence must be, that the smaller the crop of the farmer, the less price will he receive for his grain?—All import of corn into the market must of course reduce the price.

How then does the law operate as a protection to the farmer, in the case of a short crop?—I apprehend it acts in this way, that whenever there is a deficient crop, the price must come up to 80 s. before any foreign corn can be thrown into the market to reduce it.

Was not the price of wheat, in the years 1818 and 1819, considerably higher than it is now?—Considerably higher; the great fall has been since this harvest.

Was not there during the whole of 1818, and the early part of 1819, an unlimited import of foreign corn, to a very great amount?—I apprehend there was a very considerable import, but I am not master of the details.

Does not it follow, that that foreign import did not produce the effect of throwing down the price below 80 s.?—It had not that effect, certainly, at the time.

Do you think that a year ever occurred, in which the price of wheat was quoted at 80 s. at home, in which the deficiency in the general growth was not such, that you could not possibly estimate the extent of real profit to the farmer?—I remember some years before the fall in the currency, when with abundant crops we averaged a great deal more than 80 s.; they were not defective years; it was then that land attained its highest price; that the abundant produce of the earth sold at the price of a deficient one, I think owing to the increase of the circulating medium.

E. Wakefield,
Esq.

(6 April.)

Do you think that the price of 27*s.* for oats, which is fixed as the average in the present corn law, is in proportion to the price of wheat and other grain?—I think it hardly is; the common calculation has been, that barley should bear half the price of wheat, and oats something less, not equal to the price of barley; I think 27*s.* is too low for oats, I should say 35*s.*

Must not the market for barley be in a great measure regulated by the price of oats, from the circumstance of the distillers, who are considerable purchasers of the inferior sorts of barley, dealing in oats in preference to barley, when oats are cheaper?—The one no doubt, to a certain degree, regulates the price of the other.

Thomas Tooke, Esq.; Called in; and Examined.

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(6 April.)

YOU are extensively engaged in commerce with Russia?—Yes.

And have been for a great many years past?—Yes, a great many years past.

Can you furnish the Committee, with an account of the prices of wheat in the different ports of Russia?—I can furnish such an account for the ports of Petersburg, Archangel and Riga. I have got the prices from the year 1814 to the close of last season; supposing that that period will be the one required, as commencing at the time when the last report of the Commons upon the corn trade took place, and likewise as being a period of seven years since the conclusion of the war in Europe.

Are you prepared to put in those accounts to the Committee?—I am; these accounts contain likewise the charges of importation for the several years.

[*The Witness delivered in the same, which were read, as follows:—*]

PRICES of WHEAT at Petersburg, from 1814 to 1820, the medium Exchanges, the Cost on board per quarter British, and the Freights paid to London in each year.

Prices per chetwort of 72/100 of a quarter British.

	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	Average Exchange.	Cost on board, per qr.	Freight per Quarter.
	R.	R.	R.	D.	S. D.	S. D.
1814 - - -	25	26	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	41/8	14/ and 5 per cent. primage.
1815 - - -	25	30	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	37/9	12/ - - d°
1816 - - -	28	40	34	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	45/.	5/3 - - d°
1817 - - -	32	50	41	11 $\frac{5}{16}$	58/.	5/6 - - d°
1818 - - -	30	38	34	12	51/6	6/6 - - d°
1819 - - -	19	30	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	34/8	6/ - - d°
1820 - - -	20	27	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	30/4	5/3 - - d°

COST of Petersburg WHEAT per quarter, delivered in the Port of London, from 1814 to 1820.

	1814.	1815.	1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Cost on board, as above -	2 1 8	1 17 9	2 5 -	2 18 -	2 11 6	1 14 8	1 10 4
Sound dues - - - -	- - 4	- - 4	- - 4	- - 4	- - 4	- - 4	- - 4
Premium and policy of as- surance - - - - - }	- 1 6	- - 8	- - 8	- - 10	- - 9	- - 6	- - 5
Freight and primage - -	- 14 8	- 12 7	- 5 6	- 5 9	- 6 10	- 6 4	- 5 6
Entry, metage, &c. if sold on board ship - - - }	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7
Cornfactor's commission -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -
	2 19 9	2 12 11	2 13 1	3 6 6	3 1 -	2 3 5	1 18 2
Granary expenses, if landed and sold ex granary - - }	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6
£.	3 1 3	2 14 5	2 14 7	3 8 -	3 2 6	2 4 11	1 19 8

Exclusive of granary rent and fire insurance, and exclusive of interest of money and of the merchant's commission when on assignment; and also exclusive of the liability to damage, and of getting out of condition during the voyage.

The premiums of insurance are assumed upon the means of the summer and autumn risks.

PRICES of WHEAT at Archangel, from 1814 to 1820, the medium Exchanges, the Cost on board per quarter British, and the Freights paid to London in each year.

(6 April.)

Prices per chetwort of 72/100 of a quarter British.

	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	Average Exchange.	Cost on board, per qr.	Freight per Quarter.
	R.	R.	R.	D.	S. D.	S. D.
1814 - - -	23	24	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	41/.	18/ and 5 per cent.
1815 - - -	22	28	25	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	36/7	14/ - - d°
1816 - - -	25	33	29	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	41/.	6/ - - d°
1817 - - -	28	50	39	11 $\frac{5}{16}$	58/4	6/6 - - d°
1818 - - -	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	33	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	46/1	8/6 - - d°
1819 - - -	17	23	20	11	30/7	8/ - - d°
1820 - - -	15	19	17	10	24/.	6/6 - - d°

COST of Archangel WHEAT per quarter, delivered in the Port of London from 1814 to 1820.

	1814.	1815.	1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Cost on board, as above -	2 1 -	1 16 7	2 1 -	2 18 4	2 6 1	1 10 7	1 4 -
Premium, and policy of as- surance - - - - -	- 2 3	- 1 2	- 1 -	- 1 4	- 1 1	- - 9	- - 7
Freight and Primage - -	- 18 11	- 14 8	- 6 4	- 6 10	- 8 11	- 8 5	- 6 10
Entry, metage, &c. if sold on board ship - - - -	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7
Cornfactor's commission -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -
	3 3 9	2 14 -	2 9 11	3 8 1	2 17 8	2 1 4	1 13 -
Granary expenses, if landed and sold in granary - -	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6
£.	3 5 3	2 15 6	2 11 5	3 9 7	2 19 2	2 2 10	1 14 6

Exclusive of granary rent and fire insurance, and exclusive of interest of money and of the merchant's commission when on consignment; and also exclusive of the liability to damage, and of getting out of condition during the voyage.

The premiums of insurance are assumed upon the means of the summer and autumn risks.

PRICES of WHEAT at Riga, from 1814 to 1820, the medium Exchanges, the Cost on board per quarter British, and the Freights paid to London in each year.

Prices per last of 11 $\frac{1}{8}$ quarters British.

	Lowest.	Highest.	Mean.	Average Exchange.	Cost on board, per qr.	Freight per Quarter.
	R.	R.	R.	D.	S. D.	S. D.
1814 - - -	500	550	525	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	53/11	14/ and 5 per cent.
1815 - - -	545	565	555	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	47/10	12/ - - d°
1816 - - -	490	850	670	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	55/7	5/3 - - d°
1817 - - -	570	1,100	335	11 $\frac{5}{16}$	73/7	5/6 - - d°
1818 - - -	475	760	617 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	59/.	6/6 - - d°
1819 - - -	340	530	435	11	39/4	6/ - - d°
1820 - - -	360	494	430	10	35/5	5/3 - - d°

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(6 April.)

COST of Riga WHEAT per quarter, delivered in the Port of London, from 1814 to 1820.

	1814.	1815.	1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Cost on board, as above -	2 13 11	2 7 10	2 15 7	3 13 7	2 19 -	1 19 4	1 15 5
Premium and policy of as- surance - - - - - }	- 1 11	- - 10	- - 9	- 1 -	- - 10	- - 7	- - 6
Freight and primage - -	- 14 8	- 12 7	- 5 6	- 5 9	- 6 10	- 6 4	- 5 6
Entry, metage, &c. if sold } on board ship - - - - }	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7	- - 7
Cornfactor's commission -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -	- 1 -
	3 12 1	3 2 10	3 3 5	4 1 11	3 8 3	2 7 10	2 3 -
Granary expenses, if landed } and sold, ex granary - - }	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6	- 1 6
£.	3 13 7	3 4 4	3 4 11	4 3 5	3 9 9	2 9 4	2 4 6

Exclusive of granary rent and fire insurance, and exclusive of interest of money and of the merchant's commission when on consignment; and also exclusive of the liability to damage, and of getting out of condition during the voyage.

The premiums of insurance are assumed upon the means of the summer and autumn risks.

It appears from one of the accounts you have put in, that the price of wheat, at Archangel in 1817, was twenty-eight roubles; and in 1820, fifteen roubles; how do you account for so great a fall in the price of wheat at that place?—By its exclusion from any market in this country.

Do you happen to know whether the harvest has been abundant in Russia?—The harvest of corn in 1820 has been deficient, I believe, over the greater part of Russia. I understand, that, in the neighbourhood of Moscow, they have recently been paying twenty roubles the chetwort for wheat, for the consumption of Moscow; equal to a price delivered at Petersburg, of between 28 s. and 30 s. on board.

And nearly the same in the other ports?—It would be somewhat cheaper probably at Archangel, from its greater distance; particularly that which has been already brought there, with a view to exportation for the next season. At Odessa, I believe, the price is from twenty-two to twenty-four roubles at present; but there is very little there applicable to immediate exportation.

What would it be in English money?—It would stand in rather more than 30 s. on board.

What would be the expense of conveying corn, taking all charges, from Odessa to this country?—About 16 s. per quarter, exclusive of the charges of landing when here; and exclusive of interest of money, the voyage being one occasionally of three or four months, and of merchant's commission when on consignment; and also exclusive of the liability to damage by sea, and the getting out of condition during the voyage. The risk of damage, and of getting out of condition, if it could be measured by a premium of insurance, which it cannot be, as the underwriters will not take the risk of the whole damage, whether by sea or by getting out of condition, I should think, would be little less than 5 s. a quarter. As a merchant, I would not import corn from Odessa without including more than 5 s. for the risk of damage during so long a voyage.

At what do you estimate those other charges after the landing, which you have not mentioned?—The granary expenses, if landed and sent directly from the granary, I estimate at about 1 s. 6 d. a quarter.

You estimate the charges of conveying a quarter of wheat from Odessa to London, at 22 s. 6 d.?—Yes, taking the charges into warehouse; and what I should consider as a fair compensation for the risk of damage beyond what would be recovered from the underwriters.

Taking all charges into consideration, at what price could wheat be imported into the market of London from Odessa?—At the present prices at Odessa, at not less than upwards of 50 s. a quarter.

Be so good as to make the same statement respecting Archangel?—The price at present at Archangel would be about 20 s. to 22 s. on board, and the charges of importation, if taken from the ship here, would be 9 s. the granary expenses, if landed and sold in granary, 1 s. 6 d.; this is exclusive of interest of money and of merchant's

merchant's commission, when on consignment, and, as before, also exclusive of the liability to damage, and of getting out of condition during the voyage.

What would it stand in the market in London, with the addition of all charges?—With all those contingencies, and allowing for interest of money, if the wheat was bought during the winter there, it could not be afforded here under 35s. I should not reckon from Archangel the risk of damage as by any means so great as from Odessa; I should not put that down at more than 2s.

Without mentioning the particulars of the charges with respect to the other ports, what would a quarter of corn stand the importer in, in English money, from Riga?—Some of the Riga wheat is of superior quality to the Petersburg and Archangel; that, for instance, which comes from the province of Courland, and there is, therefore, a greater difference, occasionally, between the lowest and the highest prices at Riga than either at Archangel or at Petersburg; the best Courland wheat, by a quotation of the 9th of March from Riga, is 110 roubles, or 32s. 10d. on board per quarter Winchester measure; the charges of importation about 8s. exclusive of granary expenses, if landed and sold from the granary, and exclusive likewise of all the contingencies I have mentioned in the answer to the other questions.

Be so good as to value the contingent expenses of granary rent, fire insurance, interest of money, merchant's commission when on consignment, and the liability to damage on getting out of condition during the voyage?—About 2s. per quarter.

What would the whole cost of a quarter of corn imported from Riga be in London?—42s. 10d.

Have the goodness to state the same particulars as to Petersburg?—The price at Petersburg was, on the average of last year, about 5s. higher than the price at Archangel.

You think it would be the same now?—Yes; there would be full the same difference now, the present price at Petersburg is fully as much higher than at Archangel.

Of what quality are the wheats of those different countries, as compared with the best English wheat?—I have brought specimens of the Riga, Courland wheat, of the St. Petersburg wheat, and the Archangel wheat; I have likewise a sample of the Odessa hard wheat, which is little used in this country; it is a spring wheat, and supposed to be from Egyptian seed; I have not been able to get a sample of the Odessa soft wheat, but it is a good deal like the common run of the Petersburg.

[The Witness produced the samples referred to.]

Will you state your opinion of their qualities compared with the best English wheat?—The best guide is the difference of price in the market; and while the best British white wheat is quoted at from 61s. to 64s. the quotations are for Archangel 36s. and 37s.; Petersburg 36s. and 39s. extra 44s. and hard 46s.; Riga 39s. to 43s.; Courland 44s.; these are the prices quoted for what is free; the prices under lock are in a great measure nominal, and very much below these. These quotations are from a price current of Messrs. J. C. Ruding and Sons, corn factors, dated, Corn-Exchange, 2d April 1821.

What effect would be produced on the prices of wheat in those ports, provided the ports of England were always open for the reception of wheat?—They would probably be higher than the present quotations at those ports.

Can you form any opinion how much higher they would be?—That would depend very much upon any effect which a deficiency of our own markets might produce on the prices in this country.

Provided the demand was regular and constant for a certain quantity, and not subjected to great and sudden fluctuations, at what price do you think it would be supplied to us?—So much depends upon the prices here at the particular time, that unless some price here is assumed, I can hardly answer the question, I think the price at which wheat could be bought in Russia for a continuance, I am alluding to the ports of Archangel, Petersburg and Riga, would not be under the present quotations.

Is the present price higher or lower than in former years?—It is lower than while the intercourse between Russia and this country has been open, I ever remember; it is lower, for instance, than the prices in the year 1794.

Can you inform the Committee what quantity of wheat might be obtained from those ports in case we were a regularly importing country?—I do not imagine that any great increase of quantity could be obtained from those ports, except by a considerable advance of price upon those quotations.

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(6 April.)

Can you form any estimate of what quantity could be obtained?—The Russians have a saying, that price makes quantity, and in many respects they verify it; for if the price is inadequate, they keep back their corn for several years, and bring it forward only to the shipping ports, when there has been a demand during the autumn or the winter preceding.

Do you happen to know what the greatest quantity of corn is, that ever was exported from Petersburg?—I have here a statement of the quantities exported from Archangel, Petersburg and Riga, during the last seven years.

[The Witness delivered in the same, which was read, as follows:]

STATEMENT of the quantity of WHEAT, RYE, and OATS, exported from St. Petersburg, Riga, and Archangel, in the following years:

	ST. PETERSBURGH.			RIGA.			ARCHANGEL.		
	Wheat.	Rye.	Oats.	Wheat.	Rye.	Oats.	Wheat.	Rye.	Oats.
	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1814 - - To British Ports - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	638	40	- - -	1,306	—	—
To Foreign Ports - -	3,089	13,315	- - -	2,783	139,170	151	2,523	—	—
1815 - - To British Ports - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	671	—	—
To Foreign Ports - -	10,037	20,426	- - -	10,626	79,880	13,406	14,588	58,976	—
1816 - - To British Ports - -	387	410	- - -	11,968	2,050	839	9,581	720	—
To Foreign Ports - -	6,493	28,647	- - -	24,926	161,490	371	14,206	41,708	—
1817 - - To British Ports - -	82,189	5,862	8,490	57,530	41,400	92,675	61,915	20,777	—
To Foreign Ports - -	65,082	441,630	4,368	35,464	623,500	3,754	23,756	201,607	—
1818 - - To British Ports - -	110,308	5,826	1,440	45,298	20,840	242,866	69,922	16,542	32,849
To Foreign Ports - -	25,591	114,472	- - -	11,088	167,820	10,753	19,267	88,161	58
1819 - - To British Ports -	49,989	- - -	- - -	18,348	- - -	268,263	23,784	2,453	69,465
To Foreign Ports - -	3,396	41,092	- - -	3,146	105,660	35,956	7,068	18,541	1,047
1820 - - To British Ports - -	30,544	- - -	- - -	22,242	2,280	216,741	26,807	7,613	21,683
To Foreign Ports - -	7,269	9,027	- - -	2,123	78,560	371	5,383	12,039	—

You think that with an increase of price those exports might be increased?—Yes; I believe they might be increased.

As a merchant, possessing great experience in the different variations in the prices of commodities, have you had occasion to observe the effect of an abundant supply on price?—I have had occasion to attend very particularly to the effects of supply on price, as being concerned very extensively in raw produce; and I have found, that the price has varied in a much greater proportion than the mere difference of the excess or deficiency of the supply.

Has your attention been particularly turned towards the effect produced on the price of corn by abundance?—I have reason to think, from my observation of the price of corn (as being intimately connected with the fluctuations in the value of many other articles in which I am concerned still more extensively), that a deficiency or excess in the supply, compared with the average consumption, is attended with a still greater difference of price than that of most other articles.

Can you state to the Committee, any facts on which that opinion is grounded?—I have observed it in a general way within my own business; and that observation is confirmed by a reference to the fluctuations of price, which have occurred in a series of years past in the price of corn in this country; some of which fluctuations can apparently be referred to no other cause than to an excess or deficiency of supply, compared with the average consumption. I have made the following extracts relative to the prices of wheat, and the quantities exported and imported;

	s. d.	Quarters.
In 1728, the price was	48/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	with an excess of import of 70,757
1732, - - - -	23/8 $\frac{1}{2}$	with an excess of export of 202,058
1740, - - - -	45/0 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - - - - 46,822
1743, - - - -	22/1	- - - - - 371,429
1750, - - - -	28/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - - - - 947,323
1757, - - - -	53/4	excess of import - - 130,017
1761, - - - -	26/10 $\frac{3}{4}$	excess of export - - 441,956

The above prices are for the Winchester quarter of eight bushels, reduced from the quotations in the tables of Eton College, for the Winchester quarter of nine bushels, of middling wheat in Windsor market. The quantities are taken from the last report on the corn laws.

Within my own experience I have to observe, that the price of wheat rose between the beginning of 1794 and the end of 1795, to nearly double; although there was an importation in the two years of 606,794 quarters, and fell again by the end of 1796, to about the level from which it had risen. The seasons of 1799 and 1800, and those of 1809, 10, 11, and 12, as likewise of 1816 and 17; the great rise in price, if even measured in bullion, and the intervening and succeeding falls, must be fresh in the recollection of most of the members of this Committee. This latter period is indeed connected with considerable fluctuations in the value of our currency, and with such great political changes, that to these, some of the variations in price may justly be in part ascribed; but the prices in the middle of last century appear to be unconnected with such causes. And upon the whole, I think it may fairly be inferred from this statement, that the difference of seasons in point of abundance and scarcity is very considerable; and that the effect on price is in a ratio very much beyond the excess or defect of quantity; particularly when it is considered, that during the first period which I have referred to, the excess was relieved and a further fall in price prevented by an unusually large export, favoured by a bounty; and that the deficiency of the latter was relieved by importation. This influence of the seasons on prices, and the preponderance of seasons of a favourable or unfavourable character, through somewhat long periods, do not appear to have been sufficiently appreciated.

From your own observation as a merchant, are you quite satisfied, that a small addition of supply produces a great effect on price?—I am perfectly satisfied of the effect of a small difference of supply, as occasionally producing a great difference upon prices, within my own experience.

Are you speaking of the article corn, or of any other article?—I conceive that the observation applies to corn as a necessary of life, more particularly to grain generally, than to any other commodity.

Do you consider the present corn laws as affording a considerable protection to the British agriculturist?—I do not consider them as affording any protection, looking to any considerable term of years; there may be particular seasons in which they apparently operate as a protection, but in others they would aggravate his distress.

Upon the whole, do you think them beneficial, or otherwise, to him?—I think them rather prejudicial than beneficial.

Would your opinion of the present corn laws be at all changed, if the protecting price instead of 80 s. were 100 s.?—It would extend the range of fluctuation, but probably not produce any greater ultimate benefit to him.

In what way do you think the present corn law operates to the disadvantage of the farmer?—In rendering hopeless his state, in the event of two or three abundant seasons, inasmuch as he is precluded from the chance of any exportation, except at prices lower than those prevailing on the continent.

You think, then, that the corn laws have a tendency to raise the price of corn for a limited period, which will be generally followed by a considerable fall?—Generally so.

From what cause would that fall take place?—From a supply beyond the average consumption.

Which you think would frequently happen?—Which I think would frequently happen.

If the price of corn in this country, were on a level with the price of corn in other countries, would not the farmer, in case of an abundant crop, have the means of getting rid of the excess of supply, without so great an injury to him as he now sustains?—Undoubtedly.

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Do you think the present corn law beneficial, on the whole, to the landlord?—As I do not conceive, that upon the whole, it secures a higher average price, I do not see in what respect it can be beneficial to the landlord.

You have stated your opinion of the present corn law, as it regards the interest of the farmer and the landlord; what is your opinion of its effect on the interests of the public at large?—I conceive, that without being beneficial to the farmer or the landlord, it is highly injurious to all other branches of the community, by disturbing the proper application of capital and industry; by keeping a considerable part of our manufactures on hand which would be exported, if the foreign consumer had the means of paying for them in his corn. There appears to me to be at this moment, a quantity of corn on one side of an impenetrable barrier, and a quantity of manufactures on the other, which would naturally be interchanged, if it were not for the artificial hindrance occasioned by the present system.

If the legislature were desirous of protecting the landed interest, would it more effectually do it by a permanent duty on the importation of corn, than by the present corn laws?—I believe that a permanent duty upon the importation, if unaccompanied by a corresponding bounty upon the exportation, would be little, if at all, more effectual than the present system.

However high that duty might be?—However high that duty might be: according as the duty was high, would be the range of fluctuation; but it would still expose the farmer, and consequently the landlord, to all the consequences of the extreme depression of two or three succeeding abundant harvests.

That is supposing that this country grows nearly its own consumption?—I proceed upon that supposition. It will simplify the consideration of it, to suppose, as I really do, that the united kingdom does grow enough for its own consumption, on an average of seasons.

Would you think it safe or expedient to repeal the present corn law, and to allow free trade in grain?—Certainly not; as long as the present difference between bonded and free wheat subsists, or the difference between foreign corn and British corn; but I fully expect, that the price of foreign corn will advance; and that the price of corn in this country will fall still more, till they meet, and that at no distant period of time.

When they do so meet, then you would recommend the establishing of a perfectly free trade in corn?—Then, but not till then, I should think it advisable to throw open the trade in corn.

This opinion you give with reference to the interests of the landlord and occupier of land, as well as to the public interest?—Decidedly so. The very quotations that I have pointed out, of the prices of corn in the course of the last century, prove that, with nearly a prohibition of the importation of corn by the high rate then imposed, and a bounty on exportation, the farmer and the landlord were not preserved from a range of very low, and what to contemporaries appeared ruinously low prices. Perhaps the Committee would allow me to read an extract which I took from a book, intitled, “An Essay on the Causes of the Decline of the Foreign Trade, consequently, of the Value of Lands of Britain; and on the Means to restore both. London, printed for John Brotherton, at the Bible in Cornhill, 1750.” Mr. Locke, in his considerations, &c. page 95, treating of taxes on commodities, says, “It is in vain in a country whose great fund is land, to hope to lay the public charge of the land on any thing else, there it will terminate. The merchant, do what you can, will not bear it, and therefore the landholder must.”

If foreign trade will pay but an eighth, land must pay the remaining seven-eighths, which amounting to 13,378,204 *l.* and falling on a rental of 20,000,000 *l.* is above thirteen shillings in the pound tax upon all the lands of England. So that land with the present taxes at 20 *s.* per acre, or without the present taxes at 7 *s.* per acre, are equal; and the land is more reduced by our taxes and monopolies, than by any possible free importation; and this prohibition, by us called a remedy, is only a forwarding our general decay of trade, and consequently our general decay of rents; which actually happened after passing this prohibitory law, as Roger Coke informs us in his Treatise, “That the Church and State are in equal danger with Trade;” published in 1671; in page 64 his words are, “That the ends designed by the acts against the importation of Irish cattle, of raising the rents of the lands of England, are so far from being attained, that the contrary hath ensued. And here I wish a survey were taken how many

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many thousand farms are thrown up since this act; how many thousand farms are abated, some above one-sixth, others above one-fourth, others above one-third; some I know, which after two years lying waste are abated one-half."

This was after the passing of the law in 1670, the 22d Charles 2, when the duty on the importation of wheat was 16 s. after the price should have reached 53 s. 4 d.

If the British farmer is subject to taxes to which the other classes are not subject, ought he not to have a protection against the foreign importer to that amount?—I think that the British farmer may be entitled to a duty upon importation, to the amount precisely (if such a computation admits of being made) of such taxes as can be proved to fall directly and exclusively upon the land. But such duty would, according to my view of it, be of no avail to him unless accompanied by a corresponding bounty on exportation.

On sound principles, do you think that a protecting duty should ever be given to any one commodity, without a corresponding bounty on its exportation?—The protection in cases of our own production cannot in my opinion be effectual, without a bounty upon exportation, corresponding with the duty on importation or production.

Does that apply to manufactures also?—Certainly.

You mean without any exception?—Yes.

Are you aware, from your researches into this subject, of any period in which complaints similar to those which now prevail with respect to the depression of the principal products of land, have attracted the public notice?—I have met, in a paper, with extracts from a pamphlet printed in 1734, intituled "The Landholder's Companion, or Ways and Means to raise the value of Land;" by William Allen, Esq. of Fobstone, in Pembrokeshire. "The interest of our British landholders has been declining several years last past; it has been a general observation, that rents have been sinking, and tenants unable to make as good payments as formerly, even in counties where there is the greatest circulation of money, the maritime ones, and those near the capital cities of the kingdom: as this is too well known to be their case, they deserve the attention and favour of our legislature; it is proper they should make a tolerable interest of their money, as well as adventurers in other businesses, which few of them do who have not enjoyed their bargains twenty years or a longer time, for lands are much dearer now. Wheat this year and last never mounted, in some of the extreme parts of the kingdom, to above three shillings and eight-pence per Winchester; barley is now sold in the west of England for two shillings per Winchester bushel. Prices are often higher fifty miles round London than elsewhere, which induces several great men to think the countrymen live better than they really do. Country measures (which are frequently larger than the Winchester or legal bushels) contribute farther to such mistakes. Before they can pay their rents, wheat of middling goodness ought, I think, to sell for about four shillings and three-pence per Winchester, not in a few places, but throughout the kingdom; barley for half-a-crown; pease two shillings and threepence, and oats eighteen pence per Winchester. I know in former times, less prices were sufficient, but as circumstances alter, the same thing is altered: corn farms (iron, timber, harvest people and servants, being much dearer than heretofore,) will not yield sufficient profit to the occupiers of them, unless they can have such prices, particularly as cattle, pigs, sheep, butter and cheese are now one third part cheaper than formerly, and what is called a living price.

"The flourishing condition of the landed interest supports all trades; most trades now (except those which supply luxury, those of gold and silver-smiths, lacemen, vintners, painters, dealers in silks, velvets and high-priced cloths,) are in apparent decay; which is not only proved by the general declarations of tradesmen, but by too many instances of bankruptcy amongst them. I wish I could say the present times are not the worst. Our exports are, perhaps, as great as formerly; whence, then, all this complaint? Our farmers are worse customers than formerly; necessity has compelled them to more carefulness and frugality in laying out their money, than they were accustomed to in better times.

"The home consumption of our manufactures is much greater than our exportation; judge, then, how largely the landed man deals in them. Now if his income lessens, he becomes a worse customer to the tradesmen than he would otherwise be. I have known tradesmen of middling class, observe, that their sale accounts were too well acquainted with those sorts of truths; nay, in the cheap years, I have heard them say, they wished the price of grain high.

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"If the landed interest should be in the like distress as it was lately, it would, in all probability, in three or four years afterwards, end in the ruin of trade and navigation, as well as husbandry. Every fifty farmers of two hundred pounds stock in business, do necessarily support and maintain 1,100 tradesmen and artificers, viz.; butchers, bakers, carpenters, smiths, braziers, ironmongers, rope-makers, shoemakers, grocers, chandlers, shopkeepers, makers of hats, clothiers, tailors, pewterers, coopers, flax-dressers, linen and woollen weavers, &c. and several other sorts which would be too tedious to enumerate. The frozen benumbing temperance of the winter, does not damp the growth of vegetables, more than the poverty of farmers doth the interest and spirits of the tradesmen. The tradesmen having lost their best customers, would be unable to carry on their business; freights would be few, landholders would descend from bad to worse, rents would be generally ill paid, and at last unpaid. Lands would be unmanured, and other advantages neglected (the common case of poverty,) and thereby the rents of the kingdom within five years time, reduced near three millions per annum less than at present."

What are your expectations as to a rise in the price of corn from this time?—I conceive, judging from the effect already produced by one abundant season, namely, that of 1820, for I think those of 1818 and 1819 together were bad average seasons, that if we have an abundant crop in 1821, the price of wheat may fall to five shillings a bushel; I mean the average price.

You have stated what you think the prices will be in case of an abundant harvest; what is your opinion, supposing we have an average crop or a short crop?—If we have an average crop, I should rather doubt whether the present prices are susceptible of any advance, taking the general value of money as indicated by other articles. In the event of a short crop, I should take for granted, that prices will rise to the importation price of 80 s.

Supposing the crop of 1821 be a good one, and prices to fall to 5 s. a bushel, what do you think would be the effect upon the tillage of this kingdom, and the consequent price of the corn in the event of a very short crop in the course of two or three years from that time?—I do not believe, that a reduction to 5 s. a bushel would throw much land out of cultivation, because I imagine, that the fall which has already taken place in most articles connected with the employment of capital in agriculture, and the still greater fall that may be anticipated in the retail prices of many articles which have not yet fallen, in proportion to that of the raw material, will very much reduce the cost of production.

Would the price of 5 s. a bushel admit of an exportation, unless there was a deficient crop in some other parts of Europe?—Probably not; unless in the event of deficient crops on the continent of Europe.

You have stated that as soon as the price of corn in England corresponded with the prices generally, upon the continent, you conceive all restrictions upon the corn trade might safely be removed, and not till then?—Yes; and not till then.

By what process or course of events do you expect the prices on the continent and in England so to approximate as to admit of this removal of all restrictions on the corn trade?—I believe that we have an exaggerated view of the cheapness of corn upon the continent, from casual and temporary circumstances. The harvests of 1818 and 1819 were particularly abundant throughout the whole of the north of Europe, including Germany and the Netherlands, and the north of France, much more so than those seasons in this country; 1820 has been a deficient harvest, I believe, throughout Russia; in Germany, the produce is said to have been tolerably abundant, though the quality very various, and a great deal inferior; in the south of Europe, there was a very decided deficiency; in the south of France, prices have been advancing, till within a very late period; in Italy there has been a very great want of corn, and a quantity of between fifty and a hundred thousand quarters is actually in the course of exportation, from under bond in this country, to the ports of Italy; there is no supply at all worth mentioning, at Odessa; in the event, therefore, of only an average crop, in the ensuing season, in the north of Europe, I do not think that their prices can continue so low as they are at present.

Lunæ, 9° die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR

Thomas Tooke, Esq.

Again called in; and Examined.

IF in the years to which you have referred, of falling prices and increased exportation, there had been a corn law, and if the effect of that corn law had been to raise the average price of corn in England, above the prices of other countries, must not corn have fallen still lower in England, before exportation could have taken place?—Certainly.

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Whatever distress may have been suffered, in those years, by the farmer, would it not have been aggravated under the circumstances supposed in the last question?—No doubt.

In answer to a former question, you said, that if corn should fall to 5s. a bushel, very little land would go out of cultivation; in giving that opinion, did you take into consideration the unwillingness of most men to quit a trade to which they have been long accustomed, though a losing one, and the hope which they would entertain of seeing better times?—That was one of the considerations in my view, in the answer which I gave.

Would not, however, the distress and ruin in which many farmers would be involved, in case of such a low price of corn, have a tendency to throw land out of cultivation?—Very much must depend upon the manner in which money incumbrances, contracted under a different value of the currency, are adjusted.

If by improvements in agriculture, such as employing fewer horses in ploughing, discovering new and fertilizing manures, or by any other mode of saving labour on the land, the same quantity of produce could be obtained, by the employment of less capital, would not the price of corn fall?—Yes.

Under such circumstances, would not the aggregate money price of the produce of the land be diminished?—Yes.

Would it not be for the advantage of the farmers to withdraw capital from the land, and employ it in some other occupation?—Under such circumstances, I conceive it would.

Can capital be withdrawn from the land?—It would require more or less of time; but if no definite time is stated, I conceive it would be generally the effect.

Describe what part of capital can be withdrawn?—I mean that part of the capital which goes under the description of circulating capital, as opposed to fixed capital.

Would not this necessity of withdrawing capital from the land be attended with distress to the farmers?—Doubtless it would.

Would not rents fall when leases came to be renewed?—That would be the natural effect.

Would not agricultural labourers be thrown out of work?—In proportion as any saving of human labour occurred, in that proportion would the number of labourers be thrown out of the employment to which that saving applied.

Would not the country be enriched by the amount of commodities, which the capital withdrawn from the land, would be made to produce?—The capital so saved would clearly be the means of creating so much additional wealth.

Supposing that a corn law had been long established in this country, and its effects had been to raise the average price of corn here, above the price in other countries, would not the repeal of the corn law, and the unrestricted importation of corn, produce all the effects which you said would follow from marked improvements of agriculture at home?—Admitting the effects of a corn bill in preserving a higher level of price here than abroad, such would be the effect.

Would not the price of corn fall, from the repeal of such a law?—If such a law had the effect of keeping up the average price, the repeal of it would naturally be attended with the fall supposed.

The Committee is always assuming that corn is, in consequence of the corn law, at a higher level here than it is in other countries; and the Committee now

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ask you, whether rents would not be lowered in consequence of the repeal of such a corn law?—On that supposition, such would be the effect.

Would not the farmer be in a situation of distress, and under the necessity of withdrawing capital from the land?—Yes, on the supposition referred to.

Improvements in agriculture then, are in their immediate effects as injurious to the agricultural interests, as the repeal of a law which restricts the importation of corn; always under the supposition that the effect of that law is to keep the level of prices higher here than in other countries?—Under such circumstances, they doubtless may be so.

Is it your opinion, in point of fact, that agricultural improvements have tended to lower the price of corn in this country?—I conceive that they have been such as occasionally to prevent a much greater rise in price, in consequence of unfavourable seasons, than otherwise would have taken place.

If all trades were free, that is to say, if importation and exportation were allowed without restrictions to all, except one trade, the clothiers, for example, and if the effect should be to raise the price of cloth, who would be injured by such a rise?—All the consumers of cloth.

If the hatter, the shoemaker, the farmer, the landlord, and the stockholder, consumed equal quantities of cloth, they would all be equal sufferers?—Yes.

If then restrictions were imposed on the importation of hats, and if hats were high priced, would not a second injury be inflicted on all the consumers of that commodity?—Certainly.

If restrictions were further extended, would not all consumers be further aggrieved?—Certainly.

If then restrictions were extended to the farmer, would not all consumers of bread be injured, under the supposition that such restrictions raised the price of bread?—Yes; on the supposition that they raised the price of bread.

In consequence of the first exception mentioned, of a freedom of trade in favour of the clothier, would he have a higher permanent rate of profit than any other capitalist?—He would not have a higher rate of permanent profits, supposing the trade left open to competition within the country; supposing the protection to extend only against foreign competition.

But it would prevent foreign competition?—Of course.

If he got higher profits than were got in other trades, would not an increased quantity of capital be attracted to his trade, and his profits thereby reduced to the general level?—Yes.

It however excludes all foreign capital employed abroad?—Of course.

The Committee then understand you to say, that the clothier is a sufferer in common with all other consumers of cloth by a rise in its price, in consequence of the protection to his trade, without receiving any permanent compensation in increased profits?—His profits would be reduced to the common level, as soon as a full competition from capital withdrawn from other occupations could take place.

Then when that had taken place he would be a sufferer in common with all other consumers, by the rise in the price of the commodity which he himself consumed?—Yes; and he would be no gainer by any higher rate of profit in this than in other occupations.

Are not restrictions on trade, then, injurious to all capitalists, and permanently beneficial to none?—I am clearly of that opinion; and the ultimate effect is, that all the classes of the community have either worse or dearer commodities; inferior in quality, or less in quantity, than they would under a general freedom of foreign as well as of internal trade.

Is it your opinion, that all restrictions upon trade, whether that trade be foreign or domestic, tend to increase the price of the commodity?—That depends upon the fitness of our own skill, capital and industry for those productions; it is perfectly possible that some restrictions may be merely nominal; so that whether they exist or are repealed, is a matter of perfect indifference.

The question put by the Committee refers to restrictions that have a positive effect, and, therefore, not merely nominal?—They must either advance the price, or afford an inferior quality at the same price, otherwise they would be nothing more than nominal.

As the general tenor of your evidence upon this particular point goes to state it to be your opinion, that restrictions so falling upon the general body of productions would

would raise the price of them, is it your opinion, that high prices or low prices, generally, are advantageous to a country?—I believe that, in strictness, it cannot be said of high or of low prices, generally, that they are advantageous or disadvantageous. It must depend upon the abundance and quality of articles of consumption compared with the population.

Supposing then, that from the superior advantages which we derive from our capital and machinery, and our better capacity of producing articles generally suited for the consumption of the world, that we are enabled to produce these manufactures at a rate so cheap, that the manufacturers of other countries cannot enter into a competition with us in the markets of the consumer; is it your opinion, or not, that the high price of corn, and other food would be disadvantageous generally to the manufacturer?—It would, of course, be disadvantageous to him; inasmuch as it would operate as a diminution of his profit; he must either pay a higher price, or have a worse quality of food.

But would not the increased means which the home consumer would derive from higher prices, do more than compensate the loss which he would sustain, by getting his labourers at a cheaper rate?—I do not see how that effect could follow under a level of metallic prices. In proportion as some articles were dearer, others might be cheaper than they otherwise would be.

The question put by the Committee, rather refers to the effect which would be produced upon foreign demand for our manufactures, always admitting that those manufactures are cheaper than similar manufactures in other countries?—I do not see how, under any circumstances, the high price of corn, relatively to that of other countries, can be favourable to the manufactures in this.

Would it not enable the agricultural classes in England, to consume larger quantities of manufactures than they do when prices are lower, and thereby stimulate their production?—If the additional price, which, by the supposition, the agriculturist would be able to pay, must be drawn, as I before stated, from the income of the manufacturer, I cannot see how the advance in price, which the agriculturist should pay, would be greater than that increase which he had obtained at the expense of the manufacturer.

Do not high prices generally stimulate industry, and increase production, whether in agriculture or manufactures?—Rising prices do; but that cannot be the effect if there is a permanent level of high prices, any more than a permanent level of low prices; rising prices do certainly act as strong stimulants; but I have never yet known any instances where there has not been a stagnation and discouragement proportioned, in degree or duration, to the previous stimulus.

Can you state what is the proportion of our manufactured goods, consumed at home, as compared with those sold in foreign markets?—I have no such estimate; nor (if I may be allowed to say so,) do I conceive that any answer to that question would affect the principle assumed in the former questions.

State to the Committee, upon what the home market for our manufactured goods depends?—It of course depends upon the demand.

Upon what does that demand mainly depend?—Upon the means of the consumers, whatever they may be.

Who are supposed to be the great body of the consumers for manufactured goods at home?—The whole community.

When you say the whole community, do you not conceive that the country shops, spread all over the country, are the places to which the manufacturers look for orders?—I cannot, in a national point of view, admit, that the higher prices which the agriculturists are able to pay, (supposing them to obtain a higher price for their corn, by restrictions,) can be otherwise defrayed, than out of the incomes of the other classes; however some particular descriptions of shopkeepers or manufacturers may depend upon the custom of the farming and landed interests.

What is the proportion of the agricultural population of this country compared with the rest of the population?—I have no means of forming any judgment, excepting by reference to documents upon the subject, which I have not at hand, what the relative proportion of the population is.

In districts purely agricultural, who can be the customers for manufactured goods besides the agricultural part of the community?—There may be no other customers, and yet I am not aware that this circumstance at all invalidates the principle contained in my former answers.

In point of fact, do you not conceive, that, in a nation so divided between its agricultural and manufacturing population, the prosperity of home manufactures

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and demand for manufactured goods, is mostly affected by the prosperity of the agriculturists?—I should conceive, in a general way, that the prosperity of all the classes was connected.

In point of fact, do you not conceive, that, in a nation so divided in its agricultural and manufacturing population, that the prosperity of the home market for manufactured goods is mainly affected by the prosperity of the agriculturists?—If by prosperity, is meant merely a prevalence of permanently high prices, I am not clear that there is that identity of interest; but, certainly, in my sense of the word prosperity, which is very consistent with low or high prices, the interests of the two classes, would be very naturally connected.

Is that in proportion to its population?—I conceive that the prosperity of any one class of the population, if not produced by restrictions at the expense of the other orders, is beneficial to the whole population.

If a more economical mode of cultivation were adopted, and no extra manure used, would the manufacture of lime, for instance, which is now used as a species of extra manure, be injured by a want of demand for it, for agricultural purposes?—The manufacturer of lime would undoubtedly be injured; but the farmer or agriculturist who saved the capital previously laid out in lime, would have to lay it out upon some other objects, which would then experience an improved demand.

Still, however, the manufacturer would, as far as this object goes, sympathize with the farmer?—Every change of demand implies a loss to some individuals as well as a gain to others.

Would not the same observation extend to salt, and every other manufacture?—Undoubtedly.

Referring then to a former part of your evidence, the Committee beg to ask you, from your general knowledge of the growth of foreign corn, do you conceive that the last two seasons have been favourable throughout Europe; and do you believe, that in general the crop has exceeded the average?—I am given to understand, from rather extensive communications on the subject, that the crops of corn in 1818 and 1819, were very unusually abundant throughout the north of Europe. In 1820, I believe, as I stated in my last examination, that the crops in Russia had been considered deficient. The price of rye, which is the great consumption of the population there, has risen very considerably. In Germany, I understand, that the crops of 1820 have been rather abundant in quantity, but various, and upon the whole rather inferior in quality. The same was the case, I believe, in Poland; in the south of Europe they have been very decidedly deficient in 1820.

Is the price of corn in Russia materially affected by a state of peace or war?—That must depend upon the nature and character of the war.

Do you suppose, that the price of corn in Russia was affected by the advance of the French army on Moscow?—I am not aware what the prices of corn were at that time.

If a calamitous season should occur in part of Europe, at the same time that circumstances of national disaster were affecting another, might not this country be materially distressed for subsistence in the event of a deficiency in the growth of corn at home?—I should think not; and with respect to the productions of Russia, I can only say, that there was no such distress or falling off in her other articles of export, in consequence of the occupation of a part of that country by the French army, as I had been led to apprehend; and I beg to observe incidentally, that it has always struck me as a curious circumstance, that in the season of 1814, in which hostile armies occupied so large a part of France, the produce of grain there seems to have been unusually abundant. That was a time in which considerable importations took place into this country from France.

Do you imagine then, that there was always the same willingness to export corn from other countries of Europe throughout the whole period of the war?—There was one period of the war, when our intercourse with the Baltic was very much interrupted; but I believe, that even during those periods, we received supplies from thence.

Was the supply at those periods to which you allude, as easy as it would be at this moment, if there was no restriction by the corn law?—Certainly not; the expense of importation was very considerably higher than now.

As you have alluded to a period of our history when we were an exporting country, have you taken into consideration how far the agriculture of those countries to which we exported, may be improved since that time?—I have not had the means of ascertaining to what countries the bulk of our exportation went; I rather suppose it must have been to France and the south of Europe. France seems to have

have extended her cultivation ; but I doubt whether Spain and Portugal have to any considerable extent.

Should you suppose that to be the case throughout Germany ; should you not suppose that the cultivation of Germany is materially increased ?—I have no particular information on the subject ; but I dare say it has increased ; I should rather presume it must have increased.

Did you not, in a former part of your evidence, attribute the present low prices of corn on the Continent, in a great degree, to the circumstance of its having been so long excluded from the ports of England ?—I believe that I have limited my answer to the low prices in the northern parts of Russia.

To them then it applies ?—To them, if I recollect rightly, my answer was meant chiefly to apply.

Is the English market for corn an object of equal or great interest with all the European powers ?—It would be difficult, in general terms, to state the proportions of their demand to their capacity for supply.

Is it an object of interest, generally speaking, with the European powers ?—I rather think it is.

Is the price of corn on the Continent likely to rise, except in the event of an increased supply to England, or in the recurrence of a state of war ?—I should rather think that if they had only an average crop, their prices would rise independently of any political changes.

Do you believe that there is at this moment any great accumulation of corn in the granaries of foreign powers ?—I do not believe that there is any great accumulation.

Do you not believe that there is in the Low Countries, an accumulation of grain ?—I am not particularly acquainted with the state of the Low Countries ; but I have understood that prices there have rather advanced than otherwise of late.

To any great extent ?—I cannot speak with precision.

Is the opinion that there is at present an excess of supply of corn above demand, as respects the growth of corn at home, justified by the experience of the last 30 years ?—No ; but I apprehend that there was such a preponderance of bad seasons, in the course of those 30 years, as has not been sufficiently considered, in the discussions that have arisen on the subject of our corn regulations. I believe that during that period, there have not been two seasons in succession that have been considered decidedly above an average.

Do you attribute the present low price of corn to the present superabundance of the crops more than to any other cause ?—As far as my information goes, I should rather think that it is to the abundance of the crop more than to any other single cause, the depression of prices is owing. There are other causes of course producing that effect.

Did the Committee understand you right, that it was your opinion that the years of 1818 and 1819 were bare average years in this country ?—That is my impression ; I may have been misinformed on the subject.

Then is not the superabundance of this growth of the home crops applied to the year 1820 alone ?—I believe that 1818, although not an abundant season, turned out better upon the whole than it had been expected ; there was a very great drought, and from the very scanty appearance on the ground, particularly in the southern parts of the island, there was great apprehension entertained that there would be a great deficiency in quantity ; but I have since understood that it yielded infinitely better than was expected, for it proved nearly, if not quite, an average crop.

In your evidence yesterday, the Committee understood you to say, that the average of 1818 and 1819 was a bare average. The question now put to you is, whether the difference of superabundance does not apply to the growth of 1820 alone ?—The large importations in 1818 have come in aid of those two seasons which were before an average ; and in concurrence with the superabundance of the last year, now produce the depression.

Then are you of opinion, that that great importation, though not now actually in circulation, has still a tendency to create the present depression ?—Yes.

Is the increase of supply to be attributed, in a great degree, to the increased growth of Ireland ?—I should conceive so, judging from the large importation from thence.

If Ireland should continue to increase her growth, may we not also expect that she will continue to take a larger quantity of our manufactures, and that the general wealth of the empire would be increased by the number of its subjects that were capable of bearing its taxation ?—Yes ; certainly.

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(9 April.)

Did the Committee understand you right when you were last examined, that it is your opinion, that in the event of an abundant harvest in the year 1821, wheat will come down to 5 s. a bushel?—I understood it as a mere speculative question, and as a mere speculative answer, I believe that such must be the depression in the event supposed.

Do you not believe that land would go extensively out of cultivation if wheat was reduced to 5 s. a bushel?—Much would depend upon the opinion then entertained, of the permanency of such a depressed state of prices.

Can you state the average expense of cultivating an acre of wheat?—I have no knowledge of the details of agriculture.

You have no knowledge of the cost of producing a bushel of wheat?—No.

If an average of 20 bushels per acre would give about 5 l. what should be the inducement to cultivate wheat, if that should not meet the expense of cultivation?—I have already said that I am unacquainted with the details of farming, and therefore cannot judge of any estimates of the kind stated in the question.

Do you not believe that taxation, both directly and indirectly, has an effect in increasing the expenses and charges of cultivation?—It has doubtless an effect in increasing the expenses of cultivation; but it is only in so far as any taxes directly and exclusively affect the cultivation of land that they can enter into any advance of price. I mean such an amount of taxes as may be beyond that which would be incidental to productions in other occupations; most or all of which are subject to the effects of direct and indirect taxation.

Do you suppose that the charges arising out of taxation, are equal upon all land, as applying to arable and also to pasture?—I am not prepared to state in what proportion, or to what amount the direct taxation on land exists.

Upon referring to your evidence given before the Committee on foreign trade, the Committee perceive that you have suggested, as a compensation to British shipping, when in competition with the shipping of Norway and other nations in the north of Europe, that a tonnage duty should be allowed on the ships of those countries, equal to the direct taxation in this country, on the materials for ship building; should you apply this principle to the production of corn?—Yes, I should; at the same time, I may be permitted to add, that a question may arise whether these direct taxes are to a greater amount than those in other occupations; because I conceive that the ship owners may be subjected to some direct and indirect taxes which cannot apply to the materials of ship-building, nor be, in my opinion, the ground for the countervailing duty which I have suggested. It is only in so far as any taxes bear exclusively upon one particular production, that the importation of such production should be charged with a similar amount of duty.

May not poor rates be said in some degree, to arise out of the indirect taxation by which all classes of this community are affected; or, in other words, would not the poorer classes of this empire have a greater facility of subsistence, but for the general state of taxation; for instance, as it applies to the articles of soap, candles, leather, tobacco?—I should imagine they would.

If, as a merchant, you were disposed to withdraw part of your capital now vested in trade, and invest it in land, would not your first inquiry be, as to the amount of land-tax and poor rates upon it?—Certainly.

If, after retaining it for a certain time, you should reap no profit, and be inclined to return the same sum into trade, back again, would it of necessity be subject to any annual deductions of that sort?—I imagine the land unquestionably bears a very much larger proportion of poor rates than trade or manufactures do, and in so far I should conceive that the excess might be considered as a tax falling upon the land.

If a manufactory should be erected upon the land and afterwards destroyed, would not the value of that land be greatly deteriorated by the burthen of a large number of persons being thrown on the soil, who were incapable of cultivating it?—Certainly; and I consider the poor rates as falling very heavily upon the land, from the circumstances supposed in the question.

Do you know the total amount of poor rates at this time in England?—Official returns would give the best information.

You are aware that it amounts to several millions?—Yes.

How much of the total capital of the kingdom do you suppose is vested in land?—I am not prepared to answer that question.

If 5 s. for a bushel of wheat were the present price, and 10 s. has been hitherto conceived

conceived to be the remunerating price, how could the government of this country go on, if so large a portion of its capital should be subject to such permanent depression; or how could the peace of society be preserved if so large a part of the population were deprived of their employment?—In all events, if there be a great fall in prices, there must be very great distress, particularly so to those who are under engagements contracted at a level of a depreciated value in money; but it is not clear to me, that the gain of some classes by the cheapness may not compensate for the loss by others; and it is perfectly possible, though I am not prepared to say it is probable, nor to enter into all the varieties of view that the question might suggest, that the same amount of taxation might be defrayed by the classes who would be gainers by the increased cheapness.

Are you aware of the proportion of the value of land, as estimated in 1794 and the year 1813?—Not with sufficient precision to be able to give a satisfactory answer. I believe that taking the general estimated value of land in 1813, it was considerably higher than in 1794.

What proportion do you suppose it bears now to 1813?—Very considerably lower than in 1813. But I should think that it may be still higher than it was in 1794.

The Committee are aware that you have had very extensive dealings with Russia; has it occurred to you, in the course of those dealings, to have directed your particular attention, either as a principal or as a commissioner, to the corn trade?—Not so particularly to the corn trade as to other branches of importation from Russia.

Can you state to the Committee what the general prices are of wheat in the hands of the producers, and whether those prices vary, as you have stated them to do, in the shipping ports of Petersburg, Riga, Odessa, and Archangel?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the prices of corn in the interior of Russia to answer that question.

Is it not the case, that in those provinces which principally produce wheat, that there is a large accumulation in the hands of the producers, and that the prices seldom or never materially vary?—My general impression is, that they vary considerably; if the price is low, the proprietor holds his stock sometimes for several years, and occasionally upon the occurrence of high prices at the shipping ports, the arrears of some years are sent along with those of the crops of the year immediately preceding. I have understood that the stocks in the interior of Russia are rather small compared with former years.

From the general improvement which has taken place in the agricultural state of the Russian empire, has not her capacity to produce wheat greatly augmented in latter years; and if there were a constant and steady external demand, might not she increase it to an indefinite extent?—The increase must, in my opinion, be limited by the price and the quantity of good land applicable to that cultivation.

Can you state to the Committee, what causes would influence the price of the production of wheat in Russia; would it not depend upon the price of labour; and, if so, can you state to the Committee what the price of labour is in Russia?—No, I cannot; and I should beg leave to observe, that, if in this country, with all the advantages of intelligence among the landed gentry and surveyors, and so many other persons concerned in landed property, it is difficult to come to any thing like an approximation to what may be considered as a real remunerating price, it seems impossible to state it with respect to Russia. It does appear to me, however, that there is less encouragement for the production of wheat in Russia than of most of its other articles of exportation, as I rather think that the price of wheat is lower in proportion to those other articles, than it has been for an average of years past.

Would not the price of labour in Russia, in a considerable degree, depend upon the kind of food which is consumed by the Russian peasantry?—Doubtless it would.

Then must it not result, that labour in Russia, where the producer is sustained upon rye and other inferior articles of food, must be cheaper than labour in England, inasmuch as the English labourer consumes more expensive food?—I should think that there would be a considerable difference in the quality of the labour, which might be set against the cheapness. At the same time one great ingredient of the expense of wheat, as well as of other raw produce in Russia, consists in the expense of conveyance.

You have stated to the Committee, that the price of wheat at Odessa, according to the last advices, was from 22 to 24 roubles a quarter; are you aware that in the spring of 1820, the price was as low as from 12 to 14 roubles?—I have, myself, no

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(9 April.)

direct concerns with Odessa; and I have not been able to get any accurate statement of the prices at different dates at that port, and therefore cannot give any direct answer to that question.

Admitting the fact, that the price on board at Odessa, in March 1820, was 18 *s.* a quarter; and that at present it is about 30 *s.*; can you state to the Committee, the reason for that variation in price?—There has been a great demand for wheat in the Mediterranean; and as the supply from Odessa has been insufficient, the prices are now very high for wheat in Italy and the south of France.

Is it your opinion, that the rate of exchange of Russia with foreign countries, produces any material effect on the price of corn?—It may, doubtless. Frequently the Russians bring the largest possible supplies to the ports, having obtained rouble prices, nominally high, in consequence of the comparatively reduced state of the paper rouble, as indicated by the low exchange.

You have stated, that an excess or advance in the supply of corn, arising from the variety of seasons, produces a greater difference of price than in other commodities; and you have adduced the fluctuation of the price of wheat in England, from the commencement of the last century to the year 1750, as a proof; England being an exporting country up to 1765, with the exception of 1728 and 1729; must not that fluctuation arise rather from the demand of other countries, than from the excess or deficiency of the crops in England?—It might be the case, if large exports had been connected with advanced prices; but having been at the lowest prices, the presumption is, that it was a forced export, which would have been still more ruinous, but for the bounty.

Why should a different principle apply to corn than to any other general production?—Because a fall in the price of any other commodity, not of general necessity, brings the article within the reach of the consumption of a greater number of individuals; whereas, in the case of corn, the average quantity is sufficient for the supply of every individual. All beyond that is an absolute depression of the market for a great length of time; and a succession of even two or three abundant seasons must evidently produce an enormously inconvenient accumulation.

Is there not a greater consumption of corn when it is cheap than when it is dear, as to quantity?—There may be, and possibly must be, a greater consumption; but it is very evident that, if the population was before adequately fed, the increased consumption, from abundance, can amount to little more than waste; and this would be in a very small proportion to the whole excess of a good harvest or two.

The whole population of this country and others do not subsist upon wheat, therefore when wheat becomes cheaper, those who were formerly fed upon other corn may take to feeding upon wheat?—My remark was general, as applying to corn. There is no doubt that if there is one description of corn applicable to human food, which is abundant, and another that is deficient, then the principle does not apply; my principle applies to corn generally applicable to human food. It may be observed, that abundant seasons generally extend to the leading articles of consumption, and that it seldom happens, that in what are called commonly good years, there is a complete failure in any one great article.

Martis, 10^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR

Mr. Jonathan Page;

Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
Jonathan Page.

(10 April.)

YOU are an occupier of a considerable quantity of land in Cambridgeshire, are you not?—Yes.

To what extent?—About 2,213 acres in occupation, and a leasehold estate consisting of tithes, small and great, over 12,000 acres.

How long have you occupied this land yourself?—From 1797.

How long has your family occupied it?—Nearer seventy years than any other period.

How

(10 April.)

How is this 12,000 acres divided; in what proportion?—There are two thousand acres of open-field uninclosed land, all ploughed land; there are about 1,500 of ploughed land out of the high inclosed lands.

What is the remainder?—The remainder is the low lands; we call them fen lands, they are subject to be drowned; there is from one-fourth to one-fifth that have been ploughed, the other is grass.

When did you last enter into a negotiation for a renewal of your lease?—Last Midsummer.

Did you close last Midsummer?—I closed at Michaelmas; we accepted the terms at Midsummer to commence at Michaelmas.

When was the first offer for a renewal made?—In November 1818.

What was the amount of fine then fixed upon the renewal?—I think, as nearly as I can recollect, it was 4,725*l*.

This land is all under the Dean and Chapter of Ely, is it not?—It is.

When you closed for the renewal, what was the amount of fine?—I completed it at 6,000*l*.

At what price should you conceive wheat to be, to justify you in the payment of that fine?—From nine to ten shillings a bushel.

By whom was this fine fixed?—It was fixed by the Dean and Chapter; but valued by Mr. Custance, surveyed by Mr. Custance.

Did you feel yourself justified in closing with this offer by the price of corn in 1818?—Not solely; I had other things in view which tempted me to do it.

What induced you to renew?—I had been led to believe, that a twenty-one years lease, was worth more in proportion than a fourteen years lease, when I paid the fine for the addition to make it twenty-one, I had only fourteen years; by paying the fine it was renewed for twenty-one years; and there was another inducement that made me accept, that the buildings upon the premises are very large and the dilapidations of course are very great, and if it runs out I was alarmed at that; I was in hopes of selling it and getting rid of the burden.

Are there any lessee tenants under the Dean and Chapter of Ely in your neighbourhood, whose holdings were in the same circumstances as your own in 1818, and who have not renewed?—I believe there are.

Can you point to any particular instances?—There is a Mr. Golborne.

Has he renewed at this time?—He has not.

Do you know of any instance of a lessee proprietor having lately renewed?—Yes; his name is Cross, a neighbour of mine.

How long ago is it since he renewed?—I should think about three weeks ago.

Was his estate under the same circumstances as yours as to tenure?—Yes, exactly; a twenty-one years lease.

What do you suppose was the reason that restrained him from closing?—He was a very old man and was very much disordered; he expected to die, which he did a few weeks afterwards, and he wished to get the lease into his power to leave it.

Had you any communication with him respecting the renewal of his lease?—I had last summer.

State the nature of that communication?—He applied to me for my opinion, what he ought to pay to the Dean and Chapter; and looking over the farm, and knowing what he was to pay, I thought it was too high; and I recommended him to get the opinion of another person, to show the Chapter it was too high, a known surveyor in Norfolk.

What was the opinion of that surveyor?—He agreed with me it was much too high; we both agreed as to the price.

Was your crop in the year 1820, over or under an average crop; state it as to wheat first?—Not an average.

Was it considerably under an average?—Yes.

What price do you suppose you shall average for your wheat this year?—Between 5*s*. and 6*s*. a bushel.

Reckoning fen wheat and every thing else?—Yes; if I were to say 5*s*. I should be near the mark.

Had you an average crop of oats?—Yes, I think we had.

At what price per coomb have you been enabled to sell them this year?—From 7*s*. to 8*s*. to the present time.

What is your crop of beans?—Very short of an average crop.

At what price have you been able to sell your beans?—Fourteen shillings a coomb.

Are the poors rates in your neighbourhood on the rise or fall?—On the fall.

Mr.
Jonathan Page.

(10 April.)

Why do you conceive they are upon the fall?—Owing to flour being lower than it used to be.

What is the condition of your labourers with respect to diet; better or worse?—Worse.

In what respect?—As to clothing, to credit and food; to health they are debilitated.

What evidence can you show the Committee, that your labourers are worse in respect of credit?—There are so many distresses every week, or every day, about us; we have a court of requests for small debts held every month.

Can you state the condition of the small occupiers in your neighbourhood?—Yes; they are very low indeed; lower than ever I knew them in my life.

Do instances frequently occur in your neighbourhood now, of distress for taxes, either drainage taxes or others?—Yes.

Have the farmers in your neighbourhood, been purchasers of their occupation to any extent?—Not lately, some years ago they were.

What should you state as the condition of those farmers who purchased their estates at the time to which you allude?—More solvent than they are now, they had more capital considerably than they have now; they would have to borrow all the money if they bought any thing now.

The average price at which the ports can be opened for wheat, being 80 s. at what price, in the same proportion, ought the ports to open for oats?—I think 30 s. a quarter.

And for barley?—Thirty-shillings a quarter.

For beans?—Fifty-six shillings.

As you have stated that several of the farmers in your neighbourhood were purchasers of the land they occupied formerly, were you ever in the habit of advancing sums to your neighbours on mortgage?—No, I had no power then.

Have you lately?—Yes.

Have you to any great extent?—I have lent 6,000 l. to one man.

Is there any accumulation of interest upon it?—A great deal.

In what year did you lend this 6,000 l.?—About two years and a half ago.

What accumulation of interest is there upon it?—A year and a half.

In what condition is the tenant?—He is near losing part of his estate for the taxes. I was forced to pay his taxes the other day, and shall again, when I go home, or the land would be sold from me. As mortgagee, the less he has to pay for penalty, the better able he will be to pay me.

Do you believe that is a common state of things in your neighbourhood?—I do; it is a common fact.

What should you suppose is the present value of that estate on which you advanced this 6,000 l.?—12,000 l.

What would it sell for now?—I do not know; I think we could find no customers in the country.

What was its value at the time you lent the money?—It was estimated at more than 14,000 l. to me.

Were you rightly understood that the small farmers in your neighbourhood are particularly distressed at this moment?—I think they are more than ever I knew them.

Can you show to the Committee any particular proof of that?—Yes; within four miles of me, there is a small occupier; about three years ago, he entered into a farm of 100 l. a year; he carried 150 l. with him, it is all gone, and he owes his landlord all the rental; he used to keep two labourers, and some pigs in his sty, for his family, and now and then to sell something; he cannot keep one, and he is obliged to turn his two labourers away, and to reap his crop himself, at the age of sixty, and for the last three months, he has had no animal food for his family.

Do you apprehend that is a singular case, or that similar instances might be shown?—I think that is an extreme case; but there are others in proportion to it.

Thomas Attwood, Esq.; Called in; and Examined.

Thomas Attwood,
Esq.

(10 April.)

YOU are aware that a petition has been presented from the town of Birmingham, to the House of Commons, were you a party concerned in the drawing up that petition?—I was.

Has a Committee been appointed by some of the principal people at Birmingham, to inquire into the state of the consumption of meat, beer and other necessities of life, in that town?—Yes.

What

What was the report of that committee, at Birmingham?—I was a member of that committee; we took great pains to ascertain the exact state of consumption of meat, beer and all other articles consumed by the lower classes; we were, of course, obliged to depend on the evidence of the different individuals to whom we applied, but I may say with truth, we applied, generally, to the whole of the tradespeople, concerned in the supply of the necessities of life, to the lower classes of the people. The report that we obtained was, that in the last two years, from the Midsummer of 1818, to the Midsummer of 1820, the consumption of the necessities of life in Birmingham, had fallen off full one half; but we thought that that was too much to be perfectly correct, and we thought proper to reduce that statement in the report, which the committee presented to the town of Birmingham, upon which the petition before alluded to, was grounded; we reduced that report to one-third, and I may truly say, that of all the gentlemen who were concerned in that investigation, there was not one who was not perfectly convinced, that the diminution of consumption in the necessities of life had been full a third in the two years, comparing 1818 with 1820, the committee took the average of 1818 and 1820 in order to obviate any possible misunderstanding of the effect of the war in Birmingham; because it is well known, that Birmingham had suffered a great loss in the discontinuance of the war; but the committee were of opinion, that the advantages which Birmingham had derived from the opening of so many foreign markets by the peace, had more than compensated the loss which the town of Birmingham had sustained by the peace, and therefore we only took our average from 1818; if we had taken it from 1813, we were all convinced that the result would have been of a more distressing description; still I have, since that period, had many opportunities myself of conversing with a variety of persons concerned in supplying the necessities of life in Birmingham, and I am sorry to say that I must confirm the whole of that report, in its fullest extent; it is painful to believe that so much distress can exist, and that such a fatal change can have taken place, but I have not the shadow of a doubt of it; and although it was asserted that the account we gave was fallacious, owing to a great number of butchers being in the habit of killing more cattle than they formerly killed, yet on inquiring into the truth of that, we found that it was not owing to the increase of consumption, but positively to a diminution of it; for in the year 1818, a vast number of butchers were in the habit of killing their own meat, but in the year 1820, the increase of poverty had been such, that those small butchers could no longer afford to kill their own meat, and they were obliged to purchase their meat from the larger butchers, who are called carcase butchers; the consequence of which was, that those carcase butchers had really killed more meat at the time when the consumption of meat had fallen off in the distressing way I have described; we took the trouble to consult the inspector of hides in Birmingham, appointed under act of Parliament, respecting the consumption of meat exhibited in his books, and the falling off there confirmed the falling off which our committee found to have taken place by personal observation. If the committee will give me leave, I will read a Table, to show the comparative state of consumption in several towns in 1818 and 1820.

[The Witness delivered in the Account, which was read, as follows:]

“A TABLE, showing the Decrease which has taken place, within the last one or two years, in the number of Hides and Skins inspected in the following places; made out from Accounts given by the Inspectors of Hides and Skins appointed by Act of Parliament.

BIRMINGHAM.

Year ending 31st December 1818	- - - -	Beeves Hides	12,679
Year ending 31st December 1820	- - - -	D° D°	9,066
	Decrease	- - - -	<u>3,613</u>
Year ending 31st December 1818	- - - -	Sheep Skins	58,248
Year ending 31st December 1820	- - - -	D° D°	38,754
	Decrease	- - - -	<u>19,494</u>

Showing a decrease of 2/7ths in the consumption of beef and of 1/3d in that of mutton. It was thought at first that this falling off was in part owing to the Birmingham hides being removed to Walsall and Dudley for inspection, but from the following returns it appears that this is not the case.

Thomas Attwood,
Esq.

(10 April.)

LEEDS.

Year ending 1st September 1818	- - - - -	Beeves Hides	5,029
Year ending 1st September 1820	- - - - -	D° D°	4,374
		Decrease	<u>655</u>
Year ending 1st September 1818	- - - - -	Sheep Skins	56,000
Year ending 1st September 1820	- - - - -	D° D°	48,960
		Decrease	<u>7,040</u>

Showing a decrease of $\frac{1}{8}$ th in the consumption of beef, and also of $\frac{1}{8}$ th in that of mutton, at Leeds.

SHEFFIELD.

Year ending 17th July 1819	- - - - -	Beeves Hides	5,464
Year ending 17th July 1820	- - - - -	D° D°	4,358
		Decrease	<u>1,106</u>
Year ending 17th July 1819	- - - - -	Sheep Skins	27,219
Year ending 17th July 1820	- - - - -	D° D°	23,462
		Decrease	<u>3,757</u>

Showing a decrease of $\frac{1}{5}$ th in the consumption of beef, and of near $\frac{1}{7}$ th in that of mutton, in Sheffield.

WALSALL.

Year ending 31st December 1818	- - - - -	Beeves Hides	806
Year ending 31st December 1820	- - - - -	D° D°	544
		Decrease	<u>262</u>
Year ending 31st December 1818	- - - - -	Sheep Skins	8,479
Year ending 31st December 1820	- - - - -	D° D°	8,118
		Decrease	<u>361</u>

Showing a decrease of $\frac{1}{3}$ d in the consumption of beef, and of $\frac{1}{23}$ d in that of mutton, at Walsall.

DUDLEY.

Half year ending 31st December 1818	- - -	Beeves Hides	2,294
Half year ending 31st December 1820	- - -	D° D°	1,618
		Decrease	<u>676</u>
Half year ending 31st December 1818	- - -	Sheep Skins	10,807
Half year ending 31st December 1820	- - -	D° D°	10,564
		Decrease	<u>243</u>

Shewing a decrease of near $\frac{1}{3}$ d in the consumption of beef, and a small decrease in that of mutton, at Dudley.

I think these returns are calculated to show the distress of the manufacturing districts, and the effect which the diminution of consumption in those districts must necessarily have on the sales and prosperity of the agricultural classes.

When wheat was above 80s. a quarter, prior to the ports being shut in February 1819, the price of butchers meat was at or about 8d. per pound; it is now about $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. and wheat at 55s.; how do you account for this very trifling comparative fall in the price of meat under the concurrent effects of so great an increase as you state in the value of our currency, and so great a diminution in the demand for the article itself?—The price of meat and the price of grain, present rather an extraordinary anomaly; the fall in the one being much greater than the fall in the other; I have often thought upon the subject, and I attribute it very much to the extreme poverty of the farmers being pressed by their money obligations, and being obliged to raise funds to meet those obligations; they have not therefore the capital to enable them to invest an expenditure of two or three years in the growth of meat, but by breaking up their old pastures and destroying the fertility of the land, they are enabled to produce a greater relative proportion of productions of the plough in the markets than of the

the productions of grazing land; to that I attribute the difference that exists between the prices of meat and of grain.

Inasmuch as the cattle in 1818 were in such abundance as to afford meat in the relative proportion of 8*d.* a pound to 80*s.* a quarter for corn, must there not have been either a forced sale of those cattle, in order to diminish the quantity now in the kingdom, or would not the increase of that description of stock, have lowered the price?—Certainly; there was a forced sale of that description of stock, in the years 1815 and 1816; and I believe it is well known among the agricultural classes, that a very serious diminution of live stock did take place in those years, the effects of which are yet felt. The extreme poverty of the farmers still operating upon them, prevents their being able to renew their stocks of live cattle or of fat cattle, they are not enabled to produce the same quantity in the markets; but although the supply in the markets has fallen off most seriously, which I believe is well known to all farmers, the consumption, in my judgment, has fallen off nearly equally; the consequence of which is, that the prices of meat have not fallen on the average more than from twenty to thirty per cent, since the war, when the prices of agricultural produce, generally, have fallen nearly fifty per cent.

At what period is the Committee to understand that you state that the diminution of live stock was principally affected owing to the distresses of the farmers?—1815 and 1816.

Was the distress of the farming interest at that period greater than at any subsequent period?—I think not quite so great as it is now.

You have stated that the farmer was induced, by his distress, to prefer tillage to the multiplication of cattle?—Yes.

Are you of opinion, that there has been more profit made by tillage than by the growth and fattening of cattle, since the years 1815 and 1816?—To a certain extent, certainly; but profit is not always the object of farmers or of capitalists; necessity knows no law, and if men are pressed by their monied obligations, they must meet those obligations at any sacrifice; all farmers have been oppressed by those obligations, and have been obliged to have recourse to that system that would enable them to meet those obligations, and not to that system which the interests of their landlords and the country require.

Is the Committee to understand that you think it much more easy, under a pecuniary pressure, to raise the means of meeting it by raising corn than by selling live stock?—Certainly; by destroying the fertility of the land, by breaking up the old pastures. A farmer possesses always a certain number of horses and a certain number of labourers, if he sells those horses they will produce him but one-half or a third, probably, of what they have cost him, the consequence of which is, that by employing those horses in breaking up those pastures, without manure, in a cheap way, with one or two ploughings, and probably without fallows where they ought to be, the farmer is enabled, in the course of six, nine, or twelve months, to produce a crop of wheat, by exhausting the capital of his landlord, enabling him to meet his monied obligations.

Do you state this from your own knowledge, or is it the opinion you have formed of the causes?—It is merely an opinion I have formed by conversing with a variety of persons, I am not acquainted with agriculture myself.

Do you believe that the stock of cattle is now decreasing or increasing?—Undeniably decreasing.

So that you are of opinion, that such is the state of the occupiers of land now in this country, that they are not increasing that part of their produce which, at present prices, would be profitable, and that they are growing corn at prices which are represented to be ruinous?—To a certain extent the prices are ruinous; if the farmer has to pay the whole expense out of his own capital, but if he draws part of that expense by exhausting the capital of his landlord, then it ceases to be ruinous in the same degree, and yet, ruinous or not, the farmer is obliged to have recourse to it.

Are you speaking of farmers who have an unlimited latitude of dealing with the land of their landlords as it suits their convenience or their fancy?—I believe it is pretty generally acknowledged, that in distressed times the landlords have not that control over their farmers which they have in prosperous times; at present they take liberties in the cultivation of land, and the landlords, on account of the burdens the farmers suffer, do not feel themselves authorized in interfering to prevent them.

Can you state any instance of land let as pasture for the feeding of cattle, with covenants that it should not be broken up, where there has been a breach of such covenants, in the manner you seem to assume?—No.

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Would not a change from raising cattle to tillage require the employment of a larger capital?—Certainly not.

Was it ever stated to you, by any of the persons acquainted with the markets to which you have resorted, that a great part of the stock, brought to those markets, was prematurely forced on sale, in a state half fat, or too young?—Very frequently.

How does it happen, under all these circumstances, of a forced sale, of a greatly diminished consumption, and of a greatly increased value of money, that the price of this article has not fallen in proportion to that of almost every other commodity which can be named?—I have endeavoured to explain that; if the produce in the market falls off one-fifth, and if the demand in the market falls off one-fourth, the consequence will be, that the markets will be still more glutted, than they were before, which is, to a certain degree, the case now; although the markets are now sufficiently glutted, to exhibit a fall in price of meat, yet owing to the diminished supply having in some degree counteracted the diminished demand, that fall in price is not quite so great, as the fall of price exhibited in grain; but I must beg leave to observe, that ultimately it will inevitably be of the full extent; and that in many places, it is even now of the full extent; for I have myself bought good beef at four-pence half-penny per pound; and I believe that Birmingham workhouse buys at that price now; three-pence half-penny was the price thirty years ago, and to that price we must inevitably come again, under the action of Mr. Peel's Bill; but we are not yet come to it.

You are speaking of the period which has elapsed between 1818 and 1820; during that period, you state that the live stock of the country has been prematurely forced upon the market; and yet, during that period, the price of meat has supported itself?—Not quite.

There has been a smaller fall in the price of meat than of any other article?—It has unquestionably fallen 20 per cent since 1818; although the butchers in many villages and many places, hold up a species of monopoly, and endeavour to extort the prices they obtained two years ago; yet it is well known, that those prices give them an immense profit, and that soon, the natural effect of competition will be to force down those prices.

Do you believe that there is a monopoly in Smithfield market?—There is to a certain degree; but when I say that, I merely allude to that kind of monopoly which a unity of interest gives; it produces a unity of action.

You have stated, that there was a diminution of one-half according to the investigation, or one-third according to the report of the Birmingham committee, in the consumption of the necessaries of life; what do you call the necessaries of life?—Meat, beer, bread, groceries.

In a former answer you have stated, that owing to the poverty of the farmer, there had been a great extent of pasture land converted into tillage and producing corn?—Yes; I certainly have been so told.

There is a diminished consumption of corn according to the result of your inquiry, to the extent of one-third on the one hand, and on the other, a considerable extent of pasture converted to the growth of corn, by which the whole produce of this kingdom must be considerably increased; do you not conceive, that this increased growth, as stated by you, and this diminished consumption to the extent of one-third, would account for the fall of this article to a considerable extent?—Our report does not state a diminution of bread to the extent of one-third; it speaks of meat and beer to the extent of one-third, and then, that there is a great falling off of bread; but I beg leave to observe, that although the quantity of land under tillage is confessedly at this moment greater than ever was known before, yet the productions of the soil being brought into market without being taken off correspondently, do but glut the market so much the more, and tend to precipitate that extreme depression which we now see taking place.

You have stated the necessaries of life to be the articles you have mentioned, what is the diminution in the price of labour?—The diminution in the price of agriculture labour, where the labourer gets no more than what may be deemed the market price, I consider to be full one-half since the year 1813; but in many cases, the labourers wages have not fallen at all since the year 1813; he keeps them up partly by the reluctance of his employer to interfere, and partly by the ignorance of his employer and of himself; I have known cases, where the labourers have positively refused a weekly wages of 30 s. per week for six days work, preferring to obtain 12 s. per week and two days work, rather than they would consent to have their wages fallen from 36 s. to 30 s. per week. I have known those cases, wherein labourers,

labourers, mechanical labourers, have exhibited such an extreme repugnance to the reduction of those monied wages, upon which they have estimated all the values and all the comforts of their lives, that they have positively consented to exist upon 12 s. per week for the two days work, rather than fall from 36 s. to 30 s. per week for six days work.

In the cases to which you now refer, was there a great competition of labourers out of employment?—Very great.

And what was the situation in which the market for labour stood, as between the employer and the labourer?—It is so now; not a month ago, I am informed, for instance, by a respectable shoemaker (the mechanic I before spoke of, was a button maker) that his workmen had not now reduced their wages scarce any thing since the war, and yet he is quite convinced that the shoemakers of England at large, could do full double the work they now do, but they prefer wandering about the country, living upon clubs and upon exactions extorted from each other, with a view to keep up these nominal prices upon which they estimate their wages, rather than consent to have employment with reduced wages.

Then, is the Committee to understand that, in fact, the price of manufacturing labour has not fallen in proportion to the price of the necessities of life?—It certainly has fallen, in many instances, far more than the necessities of life. The general impression upon my mind is, unquestionably, that the fall of the wages of labour has been greater than the fall of the price of the commodities upon which the labourer exists. I will beg leave to exhibit a statement of the wages of labour in the agricultural districts round Birmingham, according to the best information I have been able to obtain. The farmers pay now 8 s. and 9 s. per week and beer, to the same man to whom they paid 15 s. per week and beer, during the last ten years of the war; farmers receive their men into their house, and they pay now 6 l. a year and board to the very same men to whom they had paid 15 l. a year and board during the latter years of the war 3 s. per week with board; is now the wages of labour in that neighbourhood, although many labourers keep up 6 s. which were the prices during the war, but 3 s. or less, may be deemed the real market price; and hundreds of labourers are wandering about the country, and begging, almost with tears in their eyes, to be employed at that reduction. I beg leave to state, also, upon this subject, that the colliers and another class of men, the iron-stone workers, in Staffordshire, obtained, during the last ten years of the war, 4 s. and 5 s. per day wages; the good workmen 5 s. the inferior workmen 4 s.; and they had always the option of over working, at their pleasure, by which they could get 2 s. per day more with ease, and therefore they could make from 36 s. to 42 s. per week; they now receive only 3 s. per day wages, and cannot obtain more than four days work per week, of course over-work is out of the question. They now get 12 s. per week at most; and they have no security for this small pittance, which the masters are continually striving to reduce.

Have you any statement in detail of the wages in the iron works during each year of the war?—I have no account of that; I should say generally, that the fall in the wages of the labouring people in the Staffordshire iron works, has not been more than 30 per cent, or between that and 40, but daily reductions are taking place at this time; I was informed by a respectable manufacturer of iron, within this week, that at the price of £. 5 per ton of pig iron, the reduction of wages has been such that he gets more profit at 5 l. than he did by the price of 6 l. a year ago.

Do you know what wages were in 1816, 1817, and 1818?—In the years 1816 and 1817 the colliers and ironworkers of whom I have been speaking were much worse off than they are now; one-half of them were unemployed.

Do you know what amount of wages they received in 1818, as compared with the present time?—Full 30 per cent more than they do now.

Of what classes of labourers are you speaking?—All classes of men engaged in the manufacture of iron, and the productions of coal and ironstone; agricultural labour has fallen more than 30 per cent since 1818.

Do you know the comparative state of wages, in the manufacturing districts engaged in the cotton trade, in the year 1813 and the present time?—I am not much acquainted with it. I know that the rate of wages in the cotton district generally, has fallen very much, in many instances 50 per cent.

As compared with what periods?—As compared with the seven years ending with the war.

You have stated, that in the necessities of life you conceive the consumption to have diminished one-third in Birmingham and its neighbourhood, do you think that

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that diminution of consumption is at all general?—Not quite equivalent to that, but a general diminution of consumption of the necessities of life I believe exists throughout the whole kingdom, except only in the markets of London; and I rather expect it does not exist there, or if it does exist there, that it does not exist to the same extent as it does in other places, and as it must do soon; the determination of the landed rental of the kingdom into expenditure in London, commanding now rather a larger proportion of the necessities of life than it did during the war, creates an increased consumption in the markets of London, counteracting a decreased consumption which is taking place from other causes, added to which, the funded rental, if I may use such a phrase, finding its great expenditure in London receives the same advantage, and contributes to improve the state of the labourer in a great degree in London, for a period, until the natural process of competition and of distress shall have reached the London labourer, in common with all his countrymen.

Do you not consider that there must be a great diminution of consumption, generally, of the necessities of life, though not in the same proportion as in the immediate neighbourhood of Birmingham, to which your inquiry has extended?—I have no doubt there is a great diminution in the consumption of the necessities of life, in the United Kingdom.

Do you consider salt as a necessary of life?—Certainly.

Do you consider soap as a necessary of life?—Certainly.

Do you consider malt as a necessary of life?—Yes.

Do you consider candles as a necessary of life?—Yes.

Do you consider sugar as a necessary of life?—I do not, but the poor people do.

Do you consider tea as a necessary of life?—Yes.

Do you consider spirits as a necessary of life?—I consider them a luxury.

In the articles enumerated, you consider some as necessities and others as the luxuries of the labouring class of society?—The luxuries of the poor.

If in point of fact, the articles that are not so strictly the necessities of life as bread, have increased in the amount of their consumption, how do you reconcile that increase with your former statements?—I believe it has not taken place; I am satisfied a diminution has taken place, and if gentlemen think an increase has taken place, I remark that the fall of price which has existed in the last two years, to the extent of from twenty to fifty per cent on all those articles, is pretty good proof to show that I am correct; for if the consumption had continued equal to the supply, the price could not have fallen.

Has there been no circumstance in the last two years, but supply and demand, to determine the price of any of those articles?—Certainly; nothing can determine the price of articles, but the relative action of supply and demand.

When you state that you are satisfied no increase has taken place in the consumption of those articles, is it merely a matter of opinion which you oppose to the evidence afforded by the returns from the departments of the revenue?—In some instances it is matter of fact; in others, matter of opinion.

Do you conceive, for instance, that the circumstance of about three millions and a half of pounds weight of increase of sugar, upon which duty has been paid in Great Britain, can be reconciled with the fact of a diminished consumption?—Certainly.

Do you conceive that an increased sale of tea at the East India Company's sales, and upon which duty has been paid for home consumption, can be reconciled with a diminished consumption?—I should consider it might.

In what manner?—In regard to the sugar, the contraction of the currency precipitated enormous importations, which importations glutted the markets; but they are not yet consumed, they hang upon the markets and contribute to keep down the price. With regard to tea I am not so positive, because that being the monopoly of the East India Company I am by no means acquainted with the character of its operation. In regard to malt and spirits, I find it a matter of fact, that the consumption has positively not increased but has diminished greatly, amounting to one-fifth of the whole produce of spirits since the year 1818, and to a considerable proportion of the whole produce of beer; but I think this, because the public documents of the nation present no record that can be depended upon to determine the magnitude of consumption for any short period of time; if taken for an average of seven or ten years, I allow that provided those books are correct, which I cannot bring myself to believe, yet provided those books are correct, they would exhibit a correct view of the state of consumption; but for one two or three years, they exhibit no correct view whatever.

Are

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Are you prepared by documents to prove a diminution in the malt, or a diminution of one-fifth in the quantity of spirits consumed in Great Britain?—It will appear by reference to the accounts presented to the House of Commons in the year 1818 and the last year.

You state that you do not consider the quantities of those articles subject to duties of Excise and Customs upon which the duties have been paid, to be any evidence of the amount of consumption of such articles within a short period?—Certainly.

Meaning by a short period the last year?—Yes.

Are you of opinion, that the stocks in the hands of retailers and dealers have considerably increased?—In malt unquestionably; in beer unquestionably; the maltsters and the brewers, at least the publicans and the private brewers last year found the best harvest for malting they ever knew; they found barley cheaper than they ever expected to see it, of course they used great exertions to malt all they possibly could, and to brew all they possibly could; the private brewers did the same; many small families who are in the habit of brewing their own beer, finding hops and malt exceedingly cheap, have been induced to brew two or three years consumption.

You are aware that when you state the quantity of malt to have diminished, you are speaking of the year ending the 5th January 1821; and consequently of malt the produce of the year antecedent?—I beg to say I am not quite aware how those payments are made; but they are lately precipitated into the hands of the government in a very rapid manner, much quicker than they were some years ago; I will beg to mention one or two instances in which the excise payments are forced into the exchequer, earlier than usual, for instance, (but this is a trifle;) the remittance of the excise monies, has been generally shortened throughout the whole kingdom in date; the maltsters and publicans have all been locked up much closer than they ever were before; the consequence of which is, that whereas formerly a considerable degree of latitude might be supposed to have been allowed to fraud or something of that kind, it does not exist now; and I believe the whole of the rightful revenue on malt is collected.

Has the period allowed to the maltster for paying the duty, been curtailed, or is not the curtailment in the period allowed to the collector of the duty, for remitting it to the exchequer?—I really do not know.

Are you aware of the number of months at the expiration of which the maltster pays his duty?—No.

You have stated your reasons for thinking there might be an increased stock of malt and of beer, in the hands of the dealers; do you think there is an increased stock of sugar, of tea, of soap, and of candles?—I think there is an increased stock of sugar.

In the hands of the dealers?—Yes, probably in the hands of the retailers; the extreme depression having induced them to purchase as far as they can.

Do you conceive it is pending falling markets, that the dealers of the country are generally anxious to hold large stocks of goods?—The sellers are very unwilling to sell; but I am not prepared to say but what the purchasers may be induced to purchase by the very fact of a falling market.

Is that the case with corn, which has been a falling commodity now for eight or nine months?—To a certain extent, there can be no doubt that capitalists now would be more disposed to purchase corn when it can be bought at 6 s. 6 d. per bushel, than they would if it could be bought at 8 s. or 8 s. 6 d.

Do you believe there is now any speculation going on in corn?—Very little indeed.

Is that owing to want of capital?—Want of confidence.

Want of confidence in what?—The prices.

That is an impression that the prices may be lower?—Yes; every capitalist who has ventured to move to use his capital in any mercantile, manufacturing, or agricultural purposes, in the last six years, has found himself injured by his labour, instead of getting profit by the employment of his capital, he has almost invariably found a loss, the consequence of which is an extreme depression of mind, and an extreme unwillingness to move what capital he possesses into action, the consequence of which is that his capital determines itself into the money markets, where it gluts those markets, and depreciates the interest of money at the same time that it raises the value of its principal.

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There being an increase in the quantity of the exciseable commodities referred to upon which duty has been paid, do you attribute that increase to increased consumption or to speculation?—Certainly not to increased consumption; I attribute it, if it exists, which I cannot believe, to the great imports which were forced into the country by contraction of the currency.

Are you aware, that on all those articles which are of foreign produce, the duty is not paid until they are taken out for consumption?—Yes.

You have said, that nothing in your opinion affects the prices of commodities but the relation of supply to demand, what effect will an alteration in the value of money have on the relation of supply and demand of commodities?—An alteration in the value of money, or contraction of the quantity of money in existence, will have the same effect in diminishing the prices of property as an increased quantity of property brought into action would have.

You stated, that the price of labour has fallen in a much greater proportion than the necessaries of life, have you made any estimate by which you ascertained the proportion of expense that the necessaries of life bore to the whole of the poor man's expenses?—I have here a very short estimate of it in regard to agricultural labour; in consulting farmers of the best authority I could get, I find that an agricultural labourer and his wife and two or three children, will consume half a bushel of flour per week on the average, he now pays 4s. 3d. for this half bushel, for which, during the war, he paid 6s. 3d. he therefore saves two shillings per week, but his wages have fallen from six to eight shillings per week out of fifteen and eighteen shillings; other articles of the poor man's consumption have scarcely fallen at all; firing, clothing, rent, and beer continue as dear as ever, or nearly so. When you tell a poor man of the advantages he derives from cheap bread, he asks you "of what consequence is that to me if I cannot get money to buy it with." I have found all the poor men I have consulted, make use of expressions similar to these.

Was 6s. 3d. for a half bushel of wheat the average price during the war, or the price of one particular year?—It was not the average price, but a mere price taken at random; I have the average price here, collected from authentic documents.

State what the average price of wheat was per half bushel during the war?—The average price of wheat in the ten years ending in 1813, was 89s. 10d. per quarter, or about 5s. 6d. the half bushel.

What was the average price of half a bushel of flour during the war?—The average price was 93s. per sack, for five years ending 1813; that is about nine shillings a bushel; that is the highest average of the war.

Upon what date did you state the value of labour through the war, upon an average of ten years, or of the latter five years of the war?—Here is an account of agricultural labour; the wages of agricultural labour, in Cumberland, on the average of seven years ending 1813, were 15s. 2d. per week; being a permanent rise of near a hundred and ten per cent in the wages of agricultural labour in Cumberland during the war, the price of labour in Cumberland having been on the average of seven years ending 1792, 7s. 3d. per week.

Mercurii, 11^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Thomas Attwood, Esq.

Again called in; and Examined.

Thomas Attwood,
Esq.

(11 April.)

THE Committee, wishing to understand you correctly, ask you whether, judging by the price of corn and the price of meat, it is your opinion, that the grazing farmer or the farmer of arable land get more nearly a remunerating price for the commodities they respectively produce?—By destroying the fertility of the land the arable farmers unquestionably do; but by no other means; the capital employed in arable lands is, in my opinion, greater than the capital employed in grazing lands.

Yet

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Yet you think that the farmers on grazing land are converting it into arable land?—I do.

You state, too, that a farmer on arable land requires the employment of a greater capital than a farmer on grazing land of the same extent?—That is to say, a farmer undertaking the cultivation of an arable farm, and working it as becomes his duty to his landlord, will require a greater degree of capital than a farmer working grazing lands; but a farmer working arable lands, finding no value in his stock of horses, for instance, and finding his rent and debts pressing upon him, which I believe is the situation of the great bulk of all farmers at present, will naturally be disposed to break up his old pastures in order to produce, in the space of nine or ten months, a crop of grain, at a smaller expense, which may enable him to meet his monied obligations.

Does an arable farm require the employment of fewer or more labourers than a grazing farm of the same extent?—Certainly more.

How do you reconcile the former answer, in which you said that a great quantity of agricultural labour was thrown out of work, with the statement that pasture land has been converted into tillage, and that more labour is employed on tillage than on pasture land?—The farmers themselves have adopted the smock frock, if I may use such an expression, and they now act as labourers who formerly acted as gentlemen.

Then you think that labourers are thrown out of employment merely on account of the farmers themselves doing the work that labourers formerly did?—Not entirely so, but partly so.

You have said that nothing, in your opinion, affects the price of commodities but the proportion of the supply to the demand?—Certainly.

Will an increase in the quantity of money, and a fall in its value, increase the demand for commodities?—Unquestionably.

Will it also increase the supply?—Certainly; an increased demand will afterwards act in increasing the supply.

Will it do so in one market only, or in all?—It will do so ultimately in all markets.

It is impossible for you to think that altering the yard measure, by calling a foot a yard, will augment the quantity of cloth or linen which is measured by it, although the number of yards of such reduced dimensions would of course be increased; how then can you think that altering the measure of value, by calling twenty shillings twenty-five shillings, can augment the quantity or rather value of the commodities measured?—Unquestionably an alteration of the value of money, depreciating the standard so as to elevate the prices of property, will have the effect of giving a greater reward to the producers of property, and will therefore cause a greater exertion in effectuating production.

Will it give to the producers a greater reward in real value, that is to say, in the means of consuming commodities?—Much greater; but it will give to the monied interest less.

Does money contribute at all to the production of commodities?—It is almost the only organ employed in that purpose.

Does not the quantity of commodities produced depend upon the quantity of labour, raw material, machinery, and other things used in the production?—No doubt the productions of a country must depend upon the quality of its productive power.

But you think by altering the money value of those things we increase their productive power?—As a general principle, by raising the money value of those things, we unquestionably do increase their amount.

Altering the value of money, and thereby raising the price of land, will not make the land produce more corn, will it?—I believe, on a series of years, it certainly will; to that I attribute the increased production which took place during the war, correspondent with the increased population of the country.

By altering the price of the raw material and the machinery of a manufacturer, a clothier's for example, will you increase the quantity of cloth?—Certainly; by altering the price of the commodities the manufacturer sells you will.

You have said that the distress of the farmer has induced him to employ more of his capital and labour in the production of wheat, and that this increased quantity has added to the depression of its price?—Has directed a greater proportion of the reduced capital of the farmer into channels of arable expenditure instead of grazing.

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You ascribe, then, a part of the depressed price of corn to the increase of its quantity?—The increased depression, if I may use such a phrase, that has taken place in the price of arable produce, compared with grazing produce, I do attribute, in a very great degree, to the poverty of the farmer, rendering him unable to bear the burden of a continued investment of one two or three years, which the capital of a grazing farmer requires, and being obliged to turn what little capital he has into channels of arable expenditure.

Do you attribute any part of the depression of the price of corn to the increase of its quantity, from the circumstances you have mentioned?—That part of the decreased price of corn which may be considered as the difference between the depression of arable produce and the depression of grazing produce, I do, in a great degree, attribute to that cause.

You attribute it to increased quantity?—In part to increased quantity, and in great part to an over proportion of that quantity being forced upon the markets, and too little a proportion being forced out of the markets.

What effect, do you think, has been produced upon the price of corn by the act of 1819 providing for the return of cash payments?—I should consider that the prices of corn have been reduced by that Act full thirty per cent.

What effect would have been produced on the price of corn, if in 1819, instead of restoring the Mint standard of 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* Parliament had resolved to fix the standard at 4*l.* 1*s.* the market price of gold at that time?—Very little effect indeed, perhaps not perceptible at present; but ultimately, on the average of 100 years, about four per cent.

Then if Parliament had fixed the standard at that time at 4*l.* 1*s.* you think that the price of corn would have been equally depreciated thirty per cent from that cause?—Very nearly, provided the Bank of England had adopted, previously to the passing of that Act, and afterwards, the same measures which they have adopted.

As far as the currency is concerned in influencing the price of corn, what effect would have been produced, if no measure had been taken in 1819 for the restoration of cash payments; and provided the Bank had so governed the issue of their notes as to keep them at the same relative value to gold as that at which they stood in 1819, and at which they had been, with a very slight variation, for the four preceding years?—I am perfectly convinced, that if no measure had been adopted in the year 1819 for the restoration of the old standard, and if the Bank of England had continued the circulation of the country upon the same level as existed at certain periods of the years 1817 and 1818, there would have been no depression whatever in agricultural produce, or in any other articles of expenditure, generally, since the year 1818, except a very slight reduction in the prices of agricultural produce, occasioned from time to time, by the action of the foreign importations breaking in upon the country whenever the price of wheat rose above 10*s.* and probably driving that price down to 9*s.* 6*d.* per bushel.

Do you think, then, that an abundant harvest has no effect upon the price of wheat?—Very little; but some.

To what cause do you ascribe the great variations which took place in the last century in the price of wheat, when it cannot be referred to any thing connected with the state of our money?—The prices of agricultural produce at remote periods are exceedingly obscure, and it is very difficult to say, from time to time, what particular causes acting upon the increased or diminished supply of produce, or upon the increased or diminished supply of money, may have occasioned those variations.

In the year 1801, it appears by the return before the Committee, that at Lady-day, the price of wheat was at 1*l.* 2*s.* per bushel, and at Michaelmas, in the same year, it was at 10*s.* per bushel; to what do you ascribe this great fall?—I attribute the high prices of 1801, to the exceedingly deficient harvest of 1800, principally, or I should say, partly; for a great degree of that increased price must have been owing, in my judgment, to the increased action and activity of money, occasioned by the pecuniary exertions attending the close of the war preceding the peace of Amiens.

To what is it that you ascribe the fall from 1*l.* 2*s.* to 10*s.*?—Certainly to the productions of the soil having resumed their wonted relations to the consumption existing in the country.

If you were told that the price of bullion during all that period was tolerably steady, could you ascribe this fall to any other cause than to the abundance of the season?—I think the price of bullion would have little or nothing to do with it at that period.

And yet you have told the Committee, that abundance of corn produces but very slight

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slight effect on the price of corn?—My answer referred to the price of bullion; that the price of bullion would have little or no effect upon the prices of corn, at the period referred to.

You have stated that an abundant harvest produces very little effect, in your opinion, upon the price of corn?—I did say so; when that price is fixed upon a certain level for a series of years, corresponding with the expenditure of capital, and labour necessary to the production of it; but when the prices of agricultural produce, by famine or scarcity, have been raised above that level so as to give an unnatural reward to the holders of agricultural produce, at the expense of the other classes of the community, then whenever the quantity of agricultural produce in existence, becomes again sufficient to supply the common wants of the country, according to the common average at which those wants have been supplied, then those prices having been raised above their just or natural level, are by an increased production, restored to their ancient level.

According to your opinion, it would have been impossible for this country to have reverted to any fixed standard, to be governed by the value of the metal at the time, without occasioning a fall in the price of commodities to the amount of thirty per cent?—I think that 4*l.* 1*s.* taken as a standard, would have reduced prices more than that amount; I think that 4*l.* 1*s.* taken as a standard of value, rendering all the obligations and contracts and taxes of the country convertible into gold, at that standard, would have reduced the general prices of agricultural produce, and of property and labour, generally, from the average of ten years ending the late war, full fifty per cent.

Although it should be true that the price of gold had not varied for the four preceding years?—Certainly; I consider the price of gold as no guide during the war.

Upon what do you found that opinion?—During the war, the uses of bullion had been discontinued in a great degree. England gave up almost entirely a metallic coinage, throwing thirty millions of bullion upon the foreign markets. Austria, Russia and America, in a great degree, acted upon the same system; the consequence of which was, that probably one hundred millions of bullion was forced upon the markets of Europe, on the one hand, whilst the usual demand which formerly existed in those markets, for the purposes of an annual coinage, was discontinued on the other hand; which redundancy of supply of bullion upon the one hand, combined with the diminished demand for bullion on the other hand, tended to beat down arbitrarily the exchangeable value of bullion, as compared with commodities and labour, and had the very same effect in depreciating the exchangeable value of bullion, as a new mine of immense magnitude, working in a very cheap way, would have had.

You think then, that the demand for bullion by the different banks in Europe, had raised its value forty or fifty per cent?—As compared with the prices of commodities and labour, the value of bullion has risen, really, in my judgment, to that extent in England, since 1818; and as far as I am imperfectly informed, nearly to that extent in several countries of Europe, and more than to that extent in the United States of America.

If the value of bullion has been raised from the cause which you have stated, in this country, must it not also have been raised in an equal degree, in all other countries which use bullion as the standard of their currencies?—If those other countries had acted exactly on the same principles and system that England has acted on, certainly it would have been so.

Can there be any great difference between the effect produced in England and other countries, excepting that little one of four per cent, to which amount our paper was depreciated, as compared with the gold standard?—Much greater in my judgment, because the prices of property and labour in England, having been entirely measured by an artificial standard, without the least reference whatever to a metallic standard, had during that artificial period of thirty years, or nearly so, fully doubled in general amount; and therefore, when those artificial prices, occasioned by an artificial currency, and an artificial system, were again exposed to the action of a real currency and a real system, those artificial prices would naturally fall to the level, which the real currency imposed, being the ancient level which existed for a period of a hundred years preceding the late war.

Are gold and silver bought by any other means but by the payment of commodities?—Of course commodities and labour are all that can be given for bullion.

You think, then, that compared with the year 1819, a greater quantity of commodities is now given for an ounce of gold bullion, in England, than is given for the same quantity of bullion in other countries?—I think that a much greater quantity of commodities is now given in England, in exchange for an ounce of gold bullion, than was

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given upon the average of ten years ending the late war ; but I am not prepared to say, that any much greater quantity of commodities and labour is given now in England, than was given in the year 1819 ; because in that year, in my judgment, a depression of full thirty per cent had taken place, and was taking place, in the prices of property and labour.

Then since 1819, gold has not, in your opinion, risen in England considerably more than in other countries?—It has not risen much above the level of 1819 ; I think some articles have fallen in price very much ; but in general I think the depression is not greater now than it was in 1819.

Were you rightly understood, that you ascribed the fall in the price of commodities of thirty per cent, to the measure taken in 1819?—The measures adopted by the Bank of England, in the autumn of 1818, and early in 1819, preparatory for the operation of that Act, of the 59 George 3, must have had an effect, and had an effect, and a very serious effect upon the prices of all commodities, before that Act came into action itself.

If the Bank of England had not made any purchases of gold whatever, would you then have contended that the price of gold would be enhanced thirty per cent?—I think that the very action of a standard, without the purchase of a single ounce of gold, the very fact of rendering prices convertible into a standard, would have an effect upon those prices, to a very serious extent.

Does not war and the employment of large armies, occasion the use of large quantities of gold and silver, either in the form of coin or bullion ; and will they not revert to the general circulation on the return of peace?—On some occasions, war does occasion demand for bullion, and at certain periods of the late war, when bullion was acted upon by that demand, it rose from five to ten and forty per cent in price.

Has not the quantity so used in war, reverted to the general circulation of Europe?—Certainly, in a great degree, it must be employed in circulation.

Can you form any estimate of the quantity of bullion so used in war by all the European powers?—It is difficult to form an estimate what quantity of bullion was really required by the different governments of Europe in the expenses of the war ; it is probable that the action given to bullion by those necessities of the different governments of Europe, might, in some degree, have contracted the real depreciation in the exchangeable value of bullion, as compared with commodities and labour, which took place generally in Europe during the war.

Can you form any estimate whatever, of what the quantity so used might have been?—In England, I think I can.

But not with respect to all the countries of Europe?—I am not able to form a satisfactory opinion upon the subject ; but in England, I should think it equal to twenty per cent ; I should think that the demand which the government of England presented during the war for bullion, over and above the demand which government usually presented in periods of peace, was equal to about one-fifth of the demand which formerly existed in the bullion markets, for the supply of the coinage.

To how many millions would that amount?—Perhaps, in England, the constant occupation of five or six millions upon the average of a series of years for the purposes of the war, I should think about 20 per cent ; but my sole reason for thinking so, is, that during the war, the exchangeable value of bullion, as compared with commodities and labour in England, fell about 80 per cent ; the monied prices of property and labour having risen full cent per cent ; and the prices of bullion having risen, perhaps, on an average, the last five years of the war, not much more than 20 per cent.

Do you think Austria used as much bullion for the purposes of war as England?—I am not much acquainted with the financial regulations of Austria.

Do you think Russia used as much bullion for the purposes of war as England?—I am not much acquainted with the financial regulations of Russia.

Do you not think it probable that the whole quantity used by those European powers might be about the quantity necessary for the re-establishment of the metallic standard of their different banks?—Certainly not.

Can you form any opinion how much those two quantities may differ?—My only mode of judgment would be formed upon a comparison of the monied prices of property and labour in Europe during the war, and the present prices ; and I consider the present prices are lower than they were during the war.

Are you aware that the price of live stock in the autumn of 1819 was very high?—I am not aware of it.

Assuming that it was very high, to what circumstance would you attribute such a briskness

a briskness in the market?—I have before stated, that it is exceedingly difficult to produce causes acting in extraordinary fluctuations of the market, sometimes a variety of causes combine together.

You state, in your evidence, that the price of corn has fallen 50 per cent since the war, to what period do you refer as that which was the termination of the war?—The average of ten years ending with 1813.

Are you aware that after the harvest of 1813, namely, at the close of that year and up to July 1814, the price of corn was very nearly what it now is?—A very great depression took place in the years 1813 and 1814.

Do you attribute that depression to the state of the currency?—I attribute it to the state of the currency; and when I say that, I wish to explain that I attribute all the rises of prices which take place during war, in most countries, to an extreme activity which is given to the circulating system by the expenditure of the government, a contractive action upon the circulating medium will take place upon the termination of war, which, in my judgment, ought to be guarded against.

To what do you attribute the great rise in the price of corn, which took place in the months of June, July, and August 1814?—I should imagine some unfavourable appearances of the harvest; but I cannot recollect. Some probable deficiency in the harvest.

You think the fall after the harvest of 1813 was owing to the currency, and the rise in the summer of 1814 owing to the expected deficiency in the harvest?—Yes; I am not prepared to say that it was so respecting the last part, but respecting the first part I do express a decided opinion, that it was a contractive action on the circulating system which produced a depression of price in the autumn of 1813 and the spring of 1814.

Was that assumed contractive action in the state of the currency, the effect of any measure of legislation, or the natural result of the change in the state of the country from war to peace?—To the best of my judgment there were no legislative measures positively adopted, but legislative measures were neglected.

Do you recollect the state of alarm that existed in the autumn of 1813 and the spring of 1814 among the agricultural interest?—It was very great.

Do you think it was as great as it is now?—The depression and distress were not a tenth part so great; the alarm was not so great in my opinion.

Whatever was that extent of alarm, did it terminate with the harvest of 1814?—Certainly not.

Do you say, that the legal tenders in circulation have been diminished in any great proportion since the year 1818?—About one-third as near as can be, since the year 1818. I mean the Bank of England notes and gold coins.

Has this operated nearly in a similar proportion on the circulation of country bank notes?—I think quite so.

How has this deduction been affected?—By the distress, impoverishment and alarm, which it has occasioned in all the active interests of the country.

Then, this is the way in which you account for the bankruptcy, poverty and insolvency of the last two years?—Perfectly; I am satisfied there is no other cause whatever.

Could this state of things have been prevented in any way, under the restoration of the old standard of value?—It might have been prevented by an Act of Parliament, rendering all the debts and obligations of the country and of individuals, existing in the last ten years of the war, convertible into the old standard of value, at a reduction of ten shillings in the pound; but, in my judgment, it could not have been prevented otherwise.

What then must be the effect of the Legislature persevering in the restoration of the old standard?—It must undoubtedly have the effect of doubling the real weight, and the real value of the whole national debt existing at the end of the war; and of all private debts, obligations and contracts, existing among individuals at that period.

Is it possible that such a change as this could take place, without ultimately destroying the security upon which the fundholders rely, for the payment of the double value of the national debt?—I think the burthen imposed upon the productive classes of the community, meaning the farmers, the merchants, and the manufacturers, is so exceedingly great, and will be so much greater, that ultimately it must inevitably produce an explosion of our social system.

Did the fall in the price of bullion on the peace, have any effect, and what, upon the foreign importations of agricultural produce?—I think it acted exactly the same

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as a bounty of thirty per cent in favour of the importations of foreign grain; admitting the fall in the price of bullion to have been thirty per cent.

Would a rise then, in the present price of bullion in the markets, of fifty per cent, operate as a duty of fifty per cent upon the importations of foreign grain?—It unquestionably would.

What effect would such rise have upon the exportation of British manufactures?—It would act as a bounty of fifty per cent upon the exportation of British manufactures, until the prices of British manufactures rose fifty per cent; at which period those prices would cover the necessary reward of industry, and would set free the whole action of our social system, and restore the full prosperity of the country.

What effect would it have upon the remittance of British capital abroad, for foreign investment, and for the expenditure of absentees?—It would act as a duty of fifty per cent upon the exportation of British capital for the expenditure of absentees, and the investments of British capitalists abroad.

How could such rise in the prices of bullion be effected?—It might be effected by an alteration of the mint price of bullion, to the same extent.

Would it operate unjustly towards any class of the community?—Certainly not; or with the least possible injustice to any class, it would give to the whole monied interest of the country, the very same value, the same command over property and labour, which the Legislature has contemplated to give them in the passing of the present corn law; and it would give them all the advantages that the Legislature contemplated in passing that act, excepting only the advantage of obtaining immense profits by foreign investments, and residence abroad.

Are there no circumstances under which the prices of bullion during the war, could have exhibited a just criterion of the depreciation of the currency?—Certainly; if the immense mass of bullion which was formerly occupied in the coinages of different countries, had been locked up in public vaults; and if those other masses of bullion which were formerly annually required for the annual supply of those different coinages, had also been locked up in those vaults, then, in my judgment, the prices of bullion would have exhibited a just criterion of the depreciation of the currency during the war.

To what extent, in your judgment, would the prices of bullion have risen during the war, under those circumstances?—I think they would have risen full cent per cent; to 10 s. 4 d. the ounce of silver, and to 7 l. 15 s. 9 d. the ounce of gold.

If the Legislature had thought proper to effectuate the great and continued exertions of the war, by open and continued operations upon the coinage, instead of effecting them by the silent and unseen operations of the paper system; and if other nations had acted upon the same principles, do you consider then it would have been necessary to have doubled the Mint prices of the metallic standard, and to have coined the old Mint shillings into two Mint shillings?—Certainly it would. The doubling of the general mass of the currency of the country, which was necessary to effectuate the doubling of the general prices of commodities and labour, upon which all the great operations of the war were founded, could never have been effected unless the numerical denominations of money coined from each particular ounce of bullion had been doubled also; giving to the ounce of bullion the very same command over property and labour, as it possessed for a series of two hundred years before the late war; and as had been, during that long period, found consistent with the labour and expenditure required in the production of property and bullion.

Why do you think this doubling of the Mint prices of the metallic standard would have been necessary?—Because it is fresh in the recollection of every one, or it may be proved from undoubted documents, that the doubling of the prices of property and labour, generally, did take place during the war, and that the average prices of property and labour, generally, (where not counteracted by local and mechanical improvements), fully averaged cent per cent higher in the last ten years of the war, than they did in the ten years preceding the war.

Then you consider, that the actual depreciation of the currency was full cent per cent during the war, and that on restoring the metallic standard, it was necessary to depreciate it correspondently?—It undoubtedly was.

Would such depreciation of the standard have preserved the price of agricultural produce and of property and labour generally, on the same level as existed during the last ten years of the war?—It unquestionably would.

Would it not have been unjust towards public and private creditors?—Certainly not; but the contrary measure is most exceedingly unjust towards all debtors, and to all the active and industrious classes of the community.

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You think the injustice of attempting to go back, much greater than that of fixing the standard at the level of depreciation, which the practical currency of the country has occasioned?—At least a hundred times greater.

To what extent, then, would you now recommend a reduction or depreciation in the metallic standard of value?—I consider that the extreme sufferings of the country have already acted so far in reducing the habits of life, and the general expenditure of the active classes of society; and I have such an opinion of the extreme wealth and extensive resources of this country, that, I think, it would not now be necessary to depreciate the standard to the full extent of the depreciation which existed during the last ten years of the war. I am of opinion that a reduction in the gold standard of about 37 per cent, and in the present silver standard, of 32 per cent; which purports to coin an ounce of silver bullion into eight Mint shillings, and an ounce of gold bullion into six guineas. I think that such a reduction of the metallic standard would now restore the full and secure prosperity of the country; it would give to the fundholders a premium of full 40 per cent upon the whole of the national debt above the level of the ten years ending the war; and it would give a premium to all private creditors and mortgagees who possessed monied interests at that period to exactly the same extent.

Would this reduction secure the prices of agricultural produce at a level equal to ten shillings per bushel for wheat?—I think it would secure them at a level of ten shillings, for I find that the prices of wheat averaged for 193 years, ending with the year 1793, 5*s.* 2*d.* per bushel, or exactly an ounce weight of silver; and that, also, those prices averaged on the five years ending 1793, 6*s.* 6*d.* per bushel. If, therefore, 6*s.* 6*d.* per bushel was produced when silver was coined at 5*s.* 2*d.* per ounce, 10*s.* per bushel will necessarily be produced when silver is permanently coined, and the mint opened, at 8*s.* per ounce; each of those bearing the same relation to each other.

Would it secure to all classes of the community, the means of paying those prices?—It unquestionably would. It would raise the prices of labour where those prices have been depressed; and it would preserve the prices of labour where they have not been depressed.

How do you make out, that an ounce of silver being coined into 8*s.* would secure 10*s.* to a bushel of wheat?—Because it would give to the ounce weight of silver, the very same exchangeable value under the numerical denomination of 8*s.* as it formerly received under the numerical denomination of 5*s.* 2*d.*

Is there no other measure that could secure that object?—Certainly none but a restoration of the Bank Restriction Act; or an adoption of some other system of paper currency made legal tender.

Do you know any cases of extreme hardship and injustice which the restoration of the old standard has occasioned?—I have a memorandum of two exceedingly distressing cases.

State them to the Committee?—I will refresh my memory by referring to the statement. A gentleman who sold out of the stocks in 1811, at an immense loss, also sold, in 1814, two thousand pipes of wine, at a loss of 55,000*l.* and laid out 150,000*l.* in land, in the counties of Hereford, Hertford and Essex; the Hertfordshire estate was let in 1811 for 1,600*l.* a year, and the rents were remitted punctually; in 1816, a reduction of twenty-five per cent was given in the rents, but since 1819, not a shilling of rent has been paid, and the farmers have given notice to quit; the Essex farm was let at a corn rent in 1811, when wheat was at 16*s.* a bushel; but the tenant has since failed, and the farm is in the hands of the landlord. The Herefordshire estate is not better off; and the landlord having it thrown into his hands, is now obliged to dismiss twenty labourers, since Christmas last; those losses have obliged the landlord to offer his estates for sale, and he cannot now get more than one half, or 75,000*l.* for what he paid 150,000*l.* for; he has a mortgage of 60,000*l.* upon his estate, which leaves him only a property of 15,000*l.* yet remaining; he has also 400 pipes of red port wine, which are now in the London Docks; they cost 45*l.* per pipe, and the market price is now 28*l.* per pipe, leaving a loss of 17*l.* per pipe, which is 6,800*l.* and which deducted from the 15,000*l.* leaves only 8,200*l.* the whole sum that is left to this gentleman, of a real property of 150,000*l.* in the year 1811. I beg leave to mention another case of a similar description; I have here an account of the situation of a farmer, in the county of Worcester, who occupied a farm in the year 1816. The farmer who occupied that farm before, failed in that year; his rent had been 240*l.* a year, for about eighty acres of land, and that price was not more than the land was worth. This person took the farm in 1816, at

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a reduction in rent of 70 *l.* a year, leaving only 170 *l.* rent to the landlord; he has occupied this farm four years; his poor rates are grown up to 25 *s.* an acre, and finding himself losing money every year, he has now thrown up the farm and left it, because the landlord will not consent to reduce the rent to 70 *l.* a year; a mortgage of 1,000 *l.* exists upon this farm, which occasions an annual demand of 50 *l.* upon the landlord, so that he has now only 20 *l.* a year left in the place of 190 *l.* a year as rent which existed on the average of ten years during the war.

When the market price of gold rose to 5 *l.* and upwards, during the war, was the money in the country depreciated?—The currency of the country was unquestionably depreciated.

If a land owner had then sold his land, would he not have obtained a much larger amount in pounds, than he could have got in 1797?—Certainly more than in 1797.

If then he obtained a higher price when money was depreciated, and a lower price now that its value is restored, is any injustice done to him?—I consider him robbed of the whole of his property. I believe that rent does not exist at present; and, of course, if rent has no existence, the capital of the landlord can have no existence; it becomes transferred into the hands of the fundholders and annuitants.

If his rent was now the same as in 1797, should you think then he sustained any injustice?—Very great.

Would he suffer any greater injustice than the stockholder who had the same amount of dividend in 1797 he now has?—The stockholder, I consider, advanced the same depreciated currency.

The question refers to the old stockholder in 1797?—The old stockholder of the year 1797, and particularly of the year 1792, was unquestionably injured by the great measure of the permanent depreciation of the standard value of full cent per cent, which took place during the first ten years of the war.

Would the landholder suffer any greater injustice than the stockholder who had the same amount of dividend in 1797 he now has?—He would suffer, if he happened to have a mortgage, to a much greater extent, because the fundholder may be supposed not to have that mortgage; but, as a general principle, he would suffer the same degree of injury, but not the same degree of injustice.

If a landholder had 1,000 *l.* a year in landed property, and a stockholder 1,000 *l.* a year in funded property, in the year 1797, and they both now had, the one the same amount of rent, and the other the same amount of dividend, would either of them have suffered injustice?—If it were possible to imagine that the rent of land will continue as high as it was in 1797, it might, perhaps, then be said that the injustice would be equal in both cases, or rather, the injury; for I am not of opinion any injustice was done to the fundholder of 1797.

Do you think the stockholder now receives double the real value which he received during the war?—He receives now a currency of double the value, which currency has not yet effected its full operation, so as to give into his hands the full enjoyment of that doubled property.

Estimated in corn, in beer, in all the necessaries and luxuries of life, is the stockholder's situation improved in the degree you have stated?—It is improved in the degree I have stated, about one-third now, and two-thirds to come; I think the fundholder's property will go one-third further in real expenditure, than it would do during the war; and it will ultimately go two-thirds further still.

Will it go further now than in 1797?—It will ultimately go quite as far as it did in 1792, which is perhaps, forty per cent further than in 1797; for I think the prices of property and labour generally rose before the bank restriction Act, by the activity of currency occasioned by the war, full forty per cent.

What effect would a rise in the price of bullion, of fifty per cent, have on the foreign exchanges?—A rise occasioned by the alteration of the metallic standard, would certainly alter the foreign exchanges correspondently.

To a foreign purchaser, then, the prices of English commodities would be the same as if no such alteration had taken place?—Ultimately, when the action had taken its full effect on the prices of British commodities; but for the present it would give such a premium to the foreign purchaser of British commodities, that it would create an immense exportation of British manufactures, until their prices rose to a proper level.

Would not the exchanges be affected quite as soon by such an alteration in the standard, as the prices of all commodities in the country?—I am not intimately acquainted with the theory of the exchanges.

Is not the theory of the exchanges absolutely necessary to the full understanding of this subject?—Certainly not.

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Without knowing the theory of the exchanges, is it possible for you to judge of the bounty that would be given on the exportation of British commodities, to which you have alluded?—Yes.

How do you judge of that bounty, without knowing at what rate of exchanges the payments for the goods must be made?—The present prices of commodities being now reducible into coins of the full weight and quality, give an ounce weight of silver to the foreigner for 5 s. 6 d. of commodities; but if an ounce weight of silver was made coinable into eight shillings, the consequence would be, that the foreigner would get but about two-thirds of an ounce of silver, instead of a whole ounce, in exchange for the commodities which he sells to England, and would give but about two-thirds of an ounce of silver where he now gives the whole ounce, in exchange for the British manufactures which he purchases.

Is it of any consequence to the foreign consumer, what denomination you give to your money?—Of very little consequence; the foreigner looks entirely to the bullion which the pound sterling commands.

Then if the foreign consumer estimates the value of your money not according to its nominal price, but according to the quantity of metal which it contains, how would that make any difference as to the elevation of your standard?—The elevation of our standard to the extent proposed, would reduce the real value of the pound sterling thirty-seven and a-half per cent; and therefore the foreigner, selling commodities at the present prices, would receive so much less bullion in exchange; and buying commodities at the present prices, would give so much less bullion in exchange, until the prices accommodated themselves to the alteration, which they would inevitably and quickly do, by the silver and the gold being carried to the Mint for coinage.

Would he not equally purchase and sell, with reference to the quantity of bullion contained in the money with which he exchanges?—Certainly.

If that be his system of calculation, how would it alter our dealings with the foreign consumer, by our alteration in our nominal price of the pound sterling?—Ultimately; when the alteration of the metallic standard had had time to act, in producing a similar alteration in the prices of property and labour in England, then the relations which exist between the foreigner and England would be exactly the same as they are now; but until that period, the great reward which the foreigner would have in the purchase of British manufacturers, made one-third cheaper in real or metallic value, would occasion him to buy immense quantities, thereby forcing immense quantities of bullion into the English markets, to supply the demand for bullion, which the opening of the Mint at 8 s. to the ounce of silver would occasion.

Does not the foreigner, when he is making a purchase in England, calculate the price he is to pay in the currency of his own country?—Certainly; the metallic currency.

Does not he, in making a sale, equally calculate the quantity of his own currency, which he is to receive?—Certainly.

How then can it make any difference in the price of either the commodity exported, or the commodity imported, what denomination the country with which he deals chuses to give to the currency, in which that country estimates the price of the commodity?—It would certainly make no difference at all, after it had taken full operation.

You have stated, that this alteration in our currency would be the means of checking investments of money, in foreign purchases, and also of checking the emigration of persons who spend their property abroad?—Yes.

If this were the conclusion, how then would this effect be produced?—British capitalists remitting their capital abroad for investment or expenditure, now find that 5 s. 6 d. of British money will command an ounce of silver, but under the alteration proposed, they would find 8 s. sterling of British money would be required, to command an ounce of silver; the same proportion, or nearly the same, with regard to gold, would of course diminish their amount of remittances and the profit which they have in effecting those remittances.

In what manner would they make that remittance?—Exactly the same as they do now.

In order to obtain an ounce of silver, would they not be obliged to give the same quantity of commodities, both in the one case and in the other?—The persons remitting capital abroad, for expenditure and investment, would not have the same command over commodities, as they have now; that command would diminish to the extent of the reduction in the metallic standard.

In order to obtain an ounce of silver, would they not be obliged to give the same quantity of commodities both in the one case and in the other?—If the price of the ounce of silver was risen to 8 s. it would ultimately command the same quantity of commodities,

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commodities, and therefore the possessor of 8 s. British currency (tax, debt, rent, and monied obligations of all kinds) would under that denomination of 8 s. be ultimately enabled to give the same quantity of property for an ounce of silver, as he gave formerly under the denomination of 5 s. 2 d.

At any rate, a man wishing to make a remittance of a certain number of ounces of silver to another country, would be obliged to make a sacrifice of as great a quantity of commodities?—I conceive he would not quite so much as he does now.

What temptation then is there now, more than in the case you have supposed, for sending capital out of the country?—At present, although the wholesale prices of property are beat down in England to a great degree, the retail prices are not correspondently reduced; and the expenses of living are, I believe, at this moment nearly double in England what they are in many parts of France, therefore an English capitalist possessing 100 l. a year in England, has now a premium of near cent per cent inducing him to transfer his residence to France; and if that Englishman thinks proper to invest his capital in the French funds, instead of the English funds, he will get a premium of 100 l. a year more, giving him the full enjoyment of 300 l. a year by a residence in France, instead of 100 l. a year in England.

Will he not get the same advantage, if your plan of altering the denomination of monies shall be adopted?—Certainly not.

Have you not admitted that it would, when you said, that the quantity of commodities which must be sold for an ounce of silver, both in the one case and the other, would be nearly equal?—When once they have found their proper level; but I do not say, that at present they have found their proper level; an ounce of silver at present in England is under a very serious depreciation in its exchangeable value, as compared with most articles of consumption.

Then you think this temptation to the exportation of capital would exist only during a short interval?—Certainly; I think a reduction of the metallic standard to the extent proposed, would go near to reduce the metallic prices of commodities in England to the continental level; under the same ratio of numerical denomination as exists now, it would reduce them very nearly to the same real level as exists on the continent of Europe, making the real prices the same, but the nominal prices much higher.

You are understood then to say, that by altering the denominations of money we do not alter the value of commodities estimated in the precious metals?—Certainly not permanently.

Supposing the exchange at present between Paris and London is 25 francs per pound sterling, and that by a reduction of about one-third, the exchange would be diminished to about 17 francs per pound sterling, would not a remittance to Paris in the present standard, be equivalent to a remittance to Paris in the altered standard stated?—It would be exactly equivalent in English monied value; the 17 francs containing the same weight of metal, and representing it in the pound sterling, as the 25 francs now do.

Do you admit that during the period of the war, this country, in its agriculture, its manufactures, and its foreign commerce, was in a prosperous state?—At certain periods, very great difficulties occurred; but certainly, as a general principle, it must be acknowledged that all those great branches of the national prosperity did flourish.

Then supposing the Bank Restriction Act in 1797 had not taken place, would there not in consequence have been an influx of the precious metals?—It would have been quite impossible to have effectuated the exertions of the war without that Act, or some other Act correspondent to it.

Then it is your opinion, that notwithstanding that prosperity, there would not have been an influx of the precious metals?—I apprehend there might have been a considerable influx of the precious metals; but at that period, all the common calculations of business were, as it were, superseded, and became exposed to such strange fluctuations of political and military circumstances, that it is very difficult to give a precise opinion from year to year.

Do you not perceive at present, from the state of foreign exchanges, and from other facts that are within your own observation, that precious metals are flowing into this country at present with a rapid current?—Certainly; I consider them forced in by the reduction of prices of British manufactures, on the one hand occasioning an enormous export, by giving a greater quantity of exchangeable value for an ounce of bullion; and on the other hand, by diminishing the importation of foreign articles, which being much reduced in price, occasion a great loss instead of a profit to the importers, and thereby force an unnatural importation of gold; thereby beating down the prices of gold four per cent, and the prices of property and labour fifty per cent.

From whatever causes arising, if that current shall continue to flow, will not the consequences

(11 April.)

consequences be, that our circulating metallic money must be increased in amount?—It will unquestionably; and will shortly restore the prosperity of the country if it could possibly be permanent; but as soon as the influx of the precious metals has acted upon the circulating medium by increasing the metallic coinage, so as to elevate the prices of property, it will unquestionably force the exchanges against England again, so that the Bank of England, which may be considered as the basis of the whole circulating system at present, will be compelled to reduce its issues again, and much more than ever, so as again to beat down the prices of commodities and labour, until they shall settle in England, at the level, or nearly at the level which exists in other civilized countries of the Continent; meaning the metallic level.

That being a speculative opinion, inasmuch as it refers not to that which has happened, but that which is to happen; and taking the fact which has been admitted, is it not your opinion, that it is rather the extent of the circulating medium, than the quality of which it is composed, that has an influence upon the price of home commodities?—In my answer I referred to facts, and not to opinions; having in my mind the issue of gold bullion which took place from the bank vaults in the years 1817 and 1818, at which period the increase of legal tenders then effected, did raise the prices of British property and labour, so as to throw the exchanges against this country, and suck out that very bullion which the exchanges had formerly thrown into the country; the consequence of which was, combined with the reduction of bank-note circulation taking place at the same time, the depression, the misery, and the poverty we now see.

Supposing this country were separated from all other countries in its trading transactions, and consequently had no necessity for exchanging its currency against that of other countries; would not the value of commodities at home depend rather upon the amount of the currency, than upon the intrinsic value of that currency?—I certainly consider that the intrinsic value of currency only acts on prices as regulating and influencing the quantity of the currency; and it is in that light that I consider the elevation of the price of the metallic standard would create a numerical increase in the quantities of legal tenders in existence; and consequently, of all the instruments and creations of credit which are founded upon them.

You have stated, that increasing the standard fifty per cent, would increase the nominal value of all commodities to a proportionable extent; would not the effect of that be to take away from the creditor, and give to the debtor to an equal extent?—As compared with the present prices, which in my judgment injure most cruelly the debtor, and almost without benefiting the creditor, it certainly would.

Do you make any distinction, in your view of this subject, between public creditors and private creditors?—I make no difference, and I am at a loss to know the increased burden of which is most detrimental to society.

Are there many persons wholly unemployed now in the town of Birmingham?—A great number, but not so many as there were; the bulk of them are only half employed; their productive power is certainly double what its present action is.

When you state them to be only half employed, is the Committee to understand that they work only half their time, the rate of wages remaining as it was formerly, or that the wages are reduced in the proportion of one-half?—The wages are not reduced in the proportion of one-half, in many instances they are not reduced at all; they will prefer working three or four days a week at full wages, to working six days at half wages.

Working from three to four days a week at full wages, what may be the average of the earnings of an operative man in the manufactories?—For a common journeyman, 26 s. would be full wages, and he gets such proportion of that as three days work a week would give him.

Have there been great fluctuations in the iron trade?—Very great indeed; I have here a list of twenty-five eminent iron-masters and coal-masters, who attended a meeting at Wolverhampton in the year 1810, upon some subject of importance concerning the trade, and of those individuals twenty have since become insolvent, all the most respectable men in the trade.

At what periods have they become insolvent?—One of them in the year 1812, the others within the last three or four years.

The price of iron has fluctuated more than most other articles, has it not?—The price is now 9 l. a ton, and twenty-five years ago, in my memory, it was 22 l. that ought now to be 44 l. but the prodigious improvements which the steam engine and the canals have introduced, have reduced the price to 9 l.

Was there any great extent of distress visible in the iron districts, soon after the price of corn rose, in consequence of the war?—No, certainly not; the distress at the very worst periods of the war, was beyond comparison much less than it is now;

Thomas Attwood,
Esq.

(11 April.)

and the high price of grain had but little effect in injuring them, in comparison with the present distress and want of trade.

What is the amount of the population of Birmingham?—One hundred and twenty thousand.

What proportion does the whole of the population bear which is legally settled there, to that which is not so?—I cannot answer that.

Do you suppose any material part of the population is not legally settled there?—I think most of them are settled.

Has there been any number of families or artizans lately removed from Birmingham, in consequence of a want of work?—Great numbers, as I have understood, at different periods.

Has this taken place, of late, to any extent?—Not to my knowledge to any great extent; the principal thing which has tended to reduce, in a slight degree, the poor rates in Birmingham, in the last twelve months, has been the adoption of a plan, forcing labour on all able bodied men who apply for relief; they are forced to work at wheeling sand for public purposes, at wages, enabling a mechanical man not to get more than 10 *d.* or 1 *s.* per day, but an agricultural man, accustomed to that kind of labour, could get, perhaps, 1 *s.* 6*d.* a day, the consequence of this extreme labour and small reward, forced upon mechanics, is, that a very small reduction has been effected in the poor rates of Birmingham, in the last twelve months; but I have here a letter from one of the overseers, stating, that they attribute the decrease entirely to the plan which has been adopted, of sending able men to the sand wheeling.

Are you to be understood, that at no period within the last three months, have there been many families sent out of Birmingham, in consequence of distress?—Not to my knowledge, but I doubt not that they are sent out constantly.

[The following paper was delivered in by the Chairman, having been received by him from Mr. Litchfield Tabrum, and was read:]

A STATEMENT of the Agricultural Disbursements on BURY FARM, High Roothing, near Dunmow, Essex, showing the different Items of Expenditure thereon.

Years ending	Workmen.			Tradesmen.			Malt and Hops.			Rates.			Rent.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
October 1811 - - -	409	19	2	109	6	2½	46	3	6	102	9	2½	375	—	—
— 1812 - - -	474	9	7	88	2	5	25	15	—	105	17	—	375	—	—
— 1813 - - -	501	12	10	144	9	5	70	14	—	160	11	10	375	—	—
— 1814 - - -	537	11	7	189	5	—½	91	2	—	84	15	3½	375	—	—
Average of the above 4 years - - -	480	18	3½	133	—	9¼	58	8	7½	113	8	4	375	—	—
October 1815 - - -	483	14	11	135	19	1½	48	19	—	82	14	6	375	—	—
— 1816 - - -	468	5	9	129	14	—½	78	3	6	83	14	—	375	—	—
— 1817 - - -	577	13	11½	86	10	6	107	5	—	137	1	—	375	—	—
— 1818 - - -	652	3	9½	116	—	3	67	—	—	86	8	—	500	—	—
— 1819 - - -	704	2	10½	154	13	9	71	16	—	139	18	—	500	—	—
— 1820 - - -	625	14	4	111	14	2¼	45	1	—	125	11	—	500	—	—
Average of the above 6 years - - -	585	5	11	122	8	7¼	70	—	9	109	4	5	437	10	—

(continued.)

Years ending	Taxes.			Tithe.			Cattle, Manure, Seed, and Horse Corn.			Total Amount.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
October 1811 - - -	64	18	4	125	17	—	1,186	15	2	2,420	8	7
— 1812 - - -	58	19	9½	141	1	—	1,543	9	1	2,812	13	10½
— 1813 - - -	63	3	7	141	1	—	1,651	5	4½	3,102	18	—½
— 1814 - - -	70	8	8	143	1	—	1,121	17	3	2,613	—	10
Average of the above 4 years - - -	64	7	7	137	15	—	1,375	16	8½	2,737	5	4
October 1815 - - -	70	8	8	141	11	—	840	5	2½	2,178	12	5
— 1816 - - -	66	5	2	123	8	6	930	7	3	2,254	18	2½
— 1817 - - -	25	9	—	119	12	—	1,221	4	3½	2,649	15	8½
— 1818 - - -	24	15	—	123	8	6	1,134	17	9¼	2,704	13	3½
— 1819 - - -	27	7	—	123	8	6	1,060	4	2	2,781	10	3½
— 1820 - - -	27	12	6	123	8	6	1,078	3	3	2,637	4	9¼
Average of the above 6 years - - -	40	6	2½	125	16	2	1,044	3	7¼	2,534	9	1½

The great difference of expenditure which this statement shows from one year to another, is to be accounted for by purchasing more new implements, malt, or stock, &c. one year than another, or buying them at a higher price, and the increase charged for labour is owing to the employing extra hands to keep them from the poor rates. I beg to insert a few memorandums which I omitted to mention when before the Committee. There are several farms in this neighbourhood, where the tenants have become insolvent, and two cases of particular distress, namely, Hallingbury Park, a Charter-house farm of 300 acres, the tenant being lately dead, and being three years in arrear of rent, it will take all their effects to pay it, leaving nothing for other creditors; and the widow and seven children would be destitute, were it not for the humanity of the Charter-house, who have settled an annuity on the widow. The other is the case of Simon Attridge, 78 years of age, and his wife near 80, who holds 300 acres, a very plain industrious farmer, who wishing to make his will, had his property valued by an eminent surveyor, in 1812, who estimated it at 3,030*l.*; and it is now expected, when his creditors are called together, there will be nothing left for himself and wife but the forlorn prospect of spending their few remaining days in a workhouse, and which I feel certain must shortly be the case of all the agricultural tenants, unless some speedy and effectual relief is granted to them.

Litchfield Tabrum.

Jovis, 12^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

David Hodgson, Esq.;

Called in; and Examined.

YOU are a partner in the house of Cropper, Benson and Company, at Liverpool?
—I am.

David Hodgson,
Esq.

(12 April.)

In what line of business are you engaged?—We are in various lines of business, the East India, the American, and the Irish corn trade.

Have you been extensive dealers in foreign corn?—We have.

And are now holders of foreign corn in bond?—We are.

Have you, with a view to guide your commercial transactions in the article of corn, endeavoured, by any means, to ascertain what has been, of late years, the state of the wheat crops of this country?—We have.

Have you any objection to state to the Committee, the mode which you have adopted for ascertaining this point?—None; but we should prefer, in giving a detail of it, that it was only used for the conviction of the Committee, in order that they might decide what importance they might attach to the results; we have been at very considerable expense, and consumed a great deal of time in obtaining the information, and we should prefer that the details of the manner were not made public.

Have the goodness to state the results?—We have examined, for the last several years, but more correctly since 1815, a district of the country, comprising about 1,000 miles, and we have endeavoured, as accurately as possible, to take a fair average of the fields examined.

What are the districts of country generally included in this survey of 1,000 miles? —We have generally commenced in Kent, and gone down the whole of the east coast to Berwick, and once or twice to Edinburgh, as one part of the survey; the others we have taken from Liverpool, through Cheshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, round by Birmingham, and taken in the whole of Warwickshire and Staffordshire, and come round in that circuit home again.

This survey, of course, is taken about the time the harvest is going to begin? —Yes; just when we consider the wheat ripe.

Has the result of this survey been such as to afford you satisfactory information for the guidance of your commercial speculations in corn?—We have been guided by it, though not always to the result we expected, but latterly it has been becoming more perfect, at the same time there are various contingencies that often disappoint any opinion connected with an article so extensively held, or otherwise, according to the spirit of speculation which may prevail.

David Hodgson,
Esq.

(12 April.)

You consider the result of the survey to be a material ingredient in forming your conclusions as to the state of the crop, and the probability of the country being in want, or not in want of a foreign supply?—Certainly.

And of the probable price of corn in the year following your survey?—We do.

Have you any objection to state to the Committee, upon any scale you may have formed, what has been the comparative productiveness of the crops of the last six years?—None whatever; the crop of 1815, according to the method explained, gave a result of 37 Winchester bushels per acre; 1816 gave $25\frac{3}{8}$; 1817 gave $33\frac{4}{8}$; 1818 gave 32 and $\frac{6}{8}$; 1819 $27\frac{7}{8}$; 1820 $37\frac{3}{8}$; this is the quantity reduced to Winchester bushels, at 60 pounds a bushel, but then it is supposing the whole surface of the acre to produce: we have not any accurate method of knowing what the real produce per acre is, but in making some attempt at a deduction, we have been rather led to believe it would not fall much short of a sixth, but that is estimated entirely; the loss by hedges, the loss in harvesting, the loss in furrows and by vermin, the waste in machining; every thing goes out of the quantity stated.

You are of opinion, then, that in order to get at the produce actually brought to market, a deduction of not less than a sixth ought to be made from this acreable return?—I give it as a very vague estimate; the data we have had to go upon have been so uncertain; we had a very small quantity once tried, which made a deduction of about ten per cent; but this I should, myself, think was quite under the mark.

Of course you are aware that the losses some years are much greater than in others?—Unquestionably.

You have now stated the quantities only, without reference to the quality or state in which the grain is harvested?—Certainly, I should state, that we have not weighed it wet; we have reduced it all to what we esteemed the same state of dryness.

But still supposing these to be the quantities, all reduced to an equal state of dryness, the quality or fitness of the produce for converting into flour for the use of the population of this country, must vary materially?—Very materially, I should think.

And that, also, must be a main consideration in your calculations?—That is always considered in our estimates; but these figures are free from all estimate.

Can you state, with respect to those six years, those in which the grain has been considerably injured, and those in which the produce has been generally of a good quality?—That in 1815 was a very good crop, and we considered it above an average at the time, decidedly; in 1816 it was very much worse than the survey. I ought to mention with regard to 1815 and 1816, that our examinations were not so perfect as they have been in the four years since, especially 1816; for, from the condition in which it was received, we were so thoroughly satisfied of the deficiency, that we were rather inattentive, and did not weigh nearly the same number; we had gained our point in respect of information, and did not pursue it further; but it was very much worse than the survey; it was nearly rotten. In 1817 the quality was not very good.

In 1818?—In 1818, according to my recollection, the quality was good; I do not perceive that I have made a remark upon it; but I am satisfied, on recollection, it was very good. In 1819 it was very good; not so good as 1818.

The last crop?—The last crop is not very good.

Not so good in quality as in 1819?—No, nor nearly so good as 1818; there is a considerable mixture of mildew in the corn of 1820.

It is generally sound and dry?—Yes; but not equally good with either of the preceding years.

More mildewed than in 1819?—Yes, I think so.

Can you state the average acreable produce of the six years of which you have given us the detail?—The average acreable produce will be about thirty-two.

You have stated, that your survey, though less perfectly carried on, embraced a period of nine years?—It went back to the year 1809, embracing altogether a period of twelve years.

Can you state, as far as your survey was then established, what was the crop of 1813?—We discovered in the year 1814, that the person we had employed in 1813, had made a very gross mistake, which was to take the crown of the ridge, and to select the best ears; so that we reject it in our calculations; but we have every reason to believe it was the greatest crop we have ever known.

When you say, you have every reason to believe it was the greatest crop you have ever known, you have other reasons for that opinion?—We have other reasons and general observation, from the time that the grain of that season remained, in considerable quantity, in the market; I think two or three years afterwards.

Your survey not extending to Ireland and Scotland, have you any means of giving any information to the Committee, as to the state of the crops of those two parts of

of the United Kingdom for the two last years?—No; nothing but inference, no survey.

What is your impression?—My impression is, that the crop of Ireland in 1820 was good; it appeared to be the course of the crop last year to improve towards the west; and I think, there has been a very considerable extension of cultivation in Ireland last year, for a reason I will give by and by.

Do you consider the crop of 1820, as far as ascertained by your survey, to be above an average crop?—Certainly.

How much do you imagine above an average crop?—Upon the average of the six years which I have given, it would appear as about five in thirty-two, between a sixth and a seventh; but if we go further back, and include 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812 and 1814, rejecting 1813, on account of its being uncertain what the real figure was; applying the data of the square yard as actually taken for the last six years, it would give a result for an average crop of 34 in place of 32; of course, in estimating the crop of last year with reference to the acreable produce, it will depend on whether it is called 32 or 34.

Does it appear from the result of this survey, that taking the best year and the worst to which it applies, the fluctuation has been as much as a third?—Nearly.

You having stated, that the crop of the last year, according to your survey, is above an average, do you think this excess of produce in 1820, sufficient to account for the present depression of prices, or to what other causes, operating upon price, do you attribute that depression?—I attribute it partly to the crop being more than an average crop, but I attribute it chiefly to the contraction of the currency; there was also, I think, a considerable extension of growth in the years 1819 and 1820.

Applying to what part of the Kingdom?—Applying to the whole United Kingdom.

Then you attribute the depression of prices chiefly to the contraction of the currency, and in part, to the abundance of the crop and to the extension of growth?—Yes; to those three causes, as applying to the last crop.

When you speak of extension of growth, do you mean in England or the United Kingdom generally?—I mean the United Kingdom.

What are your reasons for supposing an extension of growth to have taken place within the two or three last years in the United Kingdom?—I apply it to the crops of 1819 and 1820; it appears from documents which I will submit to the Committee, that there has been a very great falling off in the slaughter of cattle in the towns of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds and Sheffield, in the last two years; in those five places there is a decrease, comparing 1820 with 1818, of 15½ per cent in weight on the whole butchers meat.

How do you ascertain the diminution of consumption of butchers meat to be in the proportion you have stated?—I have got an account of hides and skins inspected at those different places, and I suppose them to be taken with an average accuracy; these documents I can furnish to the Committee, if it be wished; comparing the year 1819 with the year 1818, there is a decrease of about seven per cent. I had the weight of the cattle from which the quantity is fixed, furnished to me by a cattle dealer and butcher, who says he knows the markets correctly.

[The Witness delivered in the Account, which was read, as follows:]

An ACCOUNT, showing the number of Hides and Skins inspected in the following Places :

YEARS.	LIVERPOOL.			MANCHESTER.		
	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.
1801 - - -	10,290	13,290	68,083	10,531	12,431	56,939
1802 - - -	9,482	15,832	66,986	11,443	14,538	57,123
1803 - - -	8,544	12,772	59,284	10,002	13,238	48,140
1804 - - -	8,636	16,034	58,364	9,264	12,719	58,861
1805 - - -	9,435	16,886	60,657	12,364	9,785	57,570
1806 - - -	9,534	16,996	67,046	10,864	11,989	69,579
1807 - - -	9,584	18,770	58,244	10,163	12,977	77,031
1808 - - -	10,296	18,735	59,770	11,632	10,741	50,276
1809 - - -	11,220	19,187	68,659	11,748	10,875	51,084
1810 - - -	10,953	18,053	67,915	12,070	13,222	60,188
1811 - - -	9,992	17,962	63,261	11,065	12,966	60,395
1812 - - -	9,944	16,845	58,834	10,560	12,188	41,436

David Hodgson,
Esq.ACCOUNT of Hides and Skins—*continued.*

(12 April.)

YEARS.	LIVERPOOL.			MANCHESTER.		
	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.
1813 - - -	10,408	16,758	61,436	12,630	12,822	71,699
1814 - - -	10,463	14,746	69,761	13,211	12,357	76,033
1815 - - -	11,841	16,960	78,797	15,145	14,262	82,661
1816 - - -	11,965	14,788	73,603	16,275	16,438	73,027
1817 - - -	14,391	17,889	81,728	16,555	16,697	82,153
1818 - - -	13,252	17,141	76,565	16,535	16,190	84,538
1819 - - -	12,188	16,972	70,561	16,058	16,016	83,714
1820 - - -	11,035	16,579	70,014	14,486	16,971	83,464
	LEEDS.			SHEFFIELD.		
1801 - - -						
1802 - - -						
1803 - - -						
1804 - - -						
1805 - - -						
1806 - - -						
1807 - - -						
1808 - - -						
1809 - - -						
1810 - - -						
1811 - - -						
1812 - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,465	4,465	30,999
1813 - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,518	4,034	30,863
1814 - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,877	4,023	29,968
1815 - - -	3,962	5,572	52,624	4,491	5,006	32,428
1816 - - -	4,501	6,844	52,066	5,348	5,797	31,999
1817 - - -	4,482	6,233	55,049	5,017	5,092	31,104
1818 - - -	5,029	5,392	56,000	5,419	3,927	30,152
1819 - - -	5,012	4,960	52,943	5,464	4,326	31,763
1820 - - -	4,374	5,597	48,960	4,358	4,307	27,413
	BIRMINGHAM.					
1801 - - -						
1802 - - -						
1803 - - -						
1804 - - -						
1805 - - -						
1806 - - -						
1807 - - -						
1808 - - -						
1809 - - -						
1810 - - -						
1811 - - -						
1812 - - -						
1813 - - -						
1814 - - -						
1815 - - -						
1816 - - -						
1817 - - -						
1818 - - -	12,679	9,124	58,248			
1819 - - -	10,434	9,250	46,955			
1820 - - -	9,066	8,993	38,754			

What inference do you draw from this diminution in the consumption of butcher's meat in the towns referred to, as with respect to the extension of the growth of corn in the United Kingdom?—I infer from the prices which cattle and beef have maintained, and from the information which I can collect, that cattle are still scarce in the country; that if they had been plentiful under such a diminished consumption, the price would have fallen materially, which it has not done in any proportion to other things;

things; that therefore the cattle have not been in existence, and the cultivation has been much increased by it.

Is your inference this; that owing to the scarcity of live stock (of which you consider the high price under a diminished consumption to be evidence) a considerable part of the land, formerly appropriated to pasture, must have been brought into tillage?—Yes.

Have you any other ground from which you draw that conclusion?—I have nothing but surmise for the rest. I should think it was not unlikely, that following the high prices and bad crop of 1816, some general effort might be made to increase the growth; but that is speculative opinion only.

Can you inform the Committee what the price of butcher's meat is at Liverpool?—It is seven-pence halfpenny.

Has it not been much higher?—The average price of butcher's meat, in Liverpool, since 1813, is 8*d.* per pound, and the Gazette average prices of wheat for the same period, will be rather better than 80*s.* about 83*s.*; now I presume 8*d.* and 80*s.* are the relative prices of butcher's meat and wheat for the last eight years, which will make the value of a pound of butcher's meat nearly as one pound of meat to four of wheat; in taking the actual average consumption of all those places which I have given to the Committee, turning them in different ways, and taking the average actual consumption, and the estimate of population, as nearly as I could make it from the census, allowing the estimated increase for the two or three miles round the towns that will be supplied by the inspection, the value of the meat upon an average number of years consumed, at 8*d.* a pound, and the value of one quarter of wheat, allowing one quarter to each person, and taken at 80*s.* are as nearly equal as possible.

Is the Committee to understand, that taking the average of the last eight years as above stated, namely, 80*s.* a quarter, and 8*d.* a pound, the money expended in wheat, is equal to that expended in meat at the average price of both?—At the average price of 80*s.* and 8*d.* it would be nearly equal.

State the aggregate amount of population, the number of quarters of wheat, and the pounds of meat upon which this calculation has been formed.

[The Witness delivered in a Statement, which was read, as follows:]

STATEMENT intending to show the comparative value of Butcher's Meat and Wheat consumed in Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield, from 1815 to 1820 inclusive.

Number of Hides and Skins inspected for the years 1815 to 1820.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.
Liverpool - - -	74,671	100,329	457,268
Manchester - - -	95,054	96,574	489,557
Leeds - - -	22,976	34,598	317,642
Sheffield - - -	30,097	28,455	184,859
	222,798	259,956	1,443,326
Average weight of each animal	668 lbs.	90 lbs.	70 lbs.
Whole weight - - -	273,257,924 lbs.		
Average annual weight, 45,542,987 lbs. 8 <i>d.</i> per lb. the } average value gives - - - - - }	1,518,099. 11. 4		
Computed Population in 1820, of the above Towns, and for } three Miles round each, 370,000, at one Quarter of Wheat } each, and the value of each Quarter, taken at the average } of 80 <i>s.</i> per Quarter - - - - - }	1,480,000. 0. 0		

The returns of Hides and Skins for Birmingham being only for three years, that Town is not included in the above calculation.

Having ascertained the fact of a diminution of a consumption of butcher's meat in the districts to which you have referred, to the extent of fifteen and a quarter per cent, and the price of butcher's meat having fallen less in proportion than that of any other commodity in general use in this country; and particularly, far less in proportion than wheat; is it from those circumstances, that you infer an extension of the growth of corn in Great Britain?—Yes; if they had fallen in equal proportions, meat should have been at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per pound, or wheat at 75*s.* a quarter.

Is there any fact from which you infer an increased growth of wheat in Ireland?—No fact whatever, excepting the importation from Ireland.

Has that greatly increased?—The average of ten years prior to 1820, I think, was about 140,000 quarters, and the import of 1820 amounted to 400,000 quarters.

David Hodgson,
Esq.

(12 April.)

You have stated, that your house is engaged in commercial transactions with the United States, have you purchased flour or grain in that part of the world?—Occasionally we have purchased; but more generally have received both on consignment.

Can you inform the Committee, what is the present price of wheat, or a barrel of flour, which is estimated equal to five bushels of wheat at the principal shipping ports of America?—I have taken down quotations chiefly from New York; it is from thence we have the greatest quantity. On the 19th of April 1820, the price at New York was a dollar per bushel, equal to 34 s. 9 d. per quarter for wheat; flour was four dollars and three quarters to five dollars a barrel, equal to 21 s. 4 d. to 22 s. 6 d. On the 10th February 1821, the price in New York was, flour three and three quarters to four dollars a barrel, exchange five per cent premium, 16 s. 1 d. to 17 s. 2 d. a barrel; wheat 70 to 71 cents, equal to 23 s. 11 d. to 24 s. 4 d. per quarter.

That is the last return you have from New York?—It is.

What are the charges on the importation of a quarter of wheat from New York?—That varies very much according to the rate of freight.

Can you furnish the Committee with any table of the prices of corn and flour in America for some years back?—I can; I have the prices from 1809 up to the present time.

[*The Witness delivered in the same, which were read, as follow:*]

AMERICAN QUOTATIONS OF WHEAT.

Year.	Date.	Flour, or Grain.	PRICE.	Exchange.	Sterling.
NEW YORK:					
1809	Nov. 10	Wheat	7/6 Sterling per 60 lbs.	- - -	60/.
	—	Flour	8 \$ per barrel - - -	Par	36/.
	Dec. 22	Wheat	162 a' 175 per 60 lbs. - - -	- - -	59/2 a' 63/11
	—	Flour	8 \$ per barrel - - -	1½ per cent disc.	36/6
1810	Jan. 25	Wheat	168 a' 175 - - -	2½ - - d°	62/2 a' 64/.
	July 5	—	17/.	or 9'7 sterling per 60 lbs.	- - - 76/8
BALTIMORE:					
	Nov. 26	Flour	9½ \$ per barrel - - -	- - -	42/6
1811	Feb. 26	Wheat	2 \$ per bushel - - -	- - -	72/.
	—	Flour	10 \$ per barrel - - -	- - -	45/.
	March 15	—	9½ \$ a 10 \$ per barrel - - -	- - -	43/6
	Oct. 25	—	8½ \$ a' 9 \$ per barrel - - -	18 per cent disc.	47/5 a' 49/4
NEW YORK:					
	Dec. 23	Flour	10 \$ a' 10 ¼ - - -	20 per cent disc.	56/3 a' 57/8
	—	Wheat	2½ \$ - - -	d°	97/11
PHILADELPHIA:					
1812	Aug 8.	Flour	8½ \$ per barrel - - -	23 per cent disc.	49/9
	March 26	—	9 a' 9½ \$ - - -	20 - - d°	50/6 a' 51/10
	Oct. 23	—	11½ \$ - - -	10 - d°	57/6
NEW YORK:					
1813	Jan. 1	Wheat	2½ per bushel - - -	Par	87/.
	—	Flour	12 \$ per barrel - - -	—	54/.
	9	—	11½ a' 12 \$ - - -	—	51/9 a' 54/.
	—	Wheat	2 ¼ a' 2 \$ ⅞ - - -	—	84/11 a' 87/.
	April 27	—	21 \$ - - -	—	94/6 a' 91/4
	—	—	12½ \$ - - -	—	56/3
1815	April 7	Flour	6½ \$ per barrel - - -	—	29/.
	June 14	Wheat	150 a' 165 per 60lb - - -	—	54/.
PHILADELPHIA:					
	Oct. 21	Flour	10 \$ - - -	12 per cent ad.	40/2
	Oct. 18	Wheat	185 a' 190 cents per 60 lbs. - - -	12 per cent	59/.
	—	Flour	10 \$ per barrel - - -	12 - - d°	40/2

American Quotations of Wheat—continued.

David Hodgson,
Esq.

(12 April.)

Year.	Date.	Flour, or Grain.	PRICE.	Exchange.	Sterling.
BALTIMORE:					
1815	Oct. 21	Flour	\$ 10 per barrel - - -	12 per cent disc.	40/2
	Dec. 18	Wheat	180 a' 190 cents for 60 lbs -	8 - - d°	56/3 a' 59/4
	Nov. 18	Flour	9½ \$ per barrel - - -	8 - - d°	39/6
NEW YORK:					
	Dec. 9	Flour	9 a' 9½ \$ per barrel - - -	8½ per cent disc.	37/4 a' 40/8
	Dec. 18	—	9 a' 9½ \$ - - -	8½ - - d°	37/4 a' 38/4
1816	April 24	—	6½ a' 7 \$ - - -	9¼ ad.	26/6 a' 28/8
	Dec. 3	—	12 \$ - - -	Par	54/.
	—	Wheat	2½ \$ per 60 lbs. - - -	—	87/.
	Dec. 17	Flour	12 \$ - - -	—	54/.
	Dec. 28	—	12½ \$ - - -	—	56/3
1817	Dec. 16	Wheat	15/ currency per 60 lbs. -	2½ % ad.	63/8
	—	Flour	9 \$ per barrel - - -	2½ % ad.	42/.
1818	March 5	Wheat	\$ 2.25 a' \$ 2.30 per 60 lbs. -	Par	78/3 a' 79/11
	—	Flour	\$ 10½ a' 11 \$ per barrel -	—	47/3 a' 49/6
	April 28	—	1 \$ 90 per 60 lbs. - - -	1 per cent disc.	67/8
	—	—	\$ 8.75 a' \$ 9 - - -	1 - - d°	39/ a' 40/1
	Sept. 10	Wheat	14/6 currency per 60 lbs. -	Par	63/1
	—	Flour	\$ 9½ a' \$ 9½ - - -	—	41/7 a' 42/9
	Dec. 26	Wheat	175 a' 180 cents per 60 lbs -	2 per cent disc.	62/2 a' 63/11
	—	Flour	\$ 9 per barrel - - -	- - d°	41/4
1819	April 10	Wheat	150 cents per 60 lbs. - - -	Par	52/2
	—	Flour	\$ 7 a' 7½ \$ per barrel - - -	—	31/6 a' 33/9
	June 10	Wheat	131 cents per 60 lbs. - - -	1½ per cent ad.	44/2
	—	Flour	\$ 6 a' 6½ per barrel - - -	- - d°	26/7 a' 27/8
	Sept. 25	—	\$ 6 - - -	2½ - - d°	26/4
	Dec. 10	Wheat	90 a' 125 cents per 60 lbs. -	- - d°	30/6 a' 42/5
	—	Flour	\$ 5½ a' \$ — per barrel - -	Par	25/2 a' 26/4
1820	April 19	Wheat	1 \$ per 60 lbs. - - -	—	36/.
	—	Flour	\$ 4½ a' \$ 5 - - -	—	21/4 a' 22/6
	May 25	—	5 \$ per barrel - - -	—	22/6
	—	Wheat	120 cents per 60 lbs - - -	—	43/2
	Oct. 9	Flour	4½ a' 5 \$ per barrel - - -	2 per cent ad.	20/11 a' 22/1
	—	Wheat	90 cents per bushel - - -	2 - - d°	31/9
1821	Feb. 10	Flour	3¾ a' 4 \$ per barrel - - -	5 - - d°	16/1 a' 17/2
	—	Wheat	70 a' 71 cents per bushel -	5 - - d°	23/11 a' 24/4

Is the present price of flour in America much lower than it has ever been within your recollection?—It seems much lower than it has ever been.

Do you conceive that the present price of flour in America is such as to remunerate the grower of wheat in that country?—I believe not.

Can you furnish the Committee with a return of the prices of wheat in the ports of the north of Europe?—I can give the prices in Dantzic since the year 1800, and I have some other prices, in Petersburg, and some other places; but not so uniformly kept up as those of Dantzic.

David Hodgson,
Esq.

(12 April.)

[The Witness delivered in the Returns, which were read, as follow:]

FOREIGN QUOTATIONS OF WHEAT.

DANTZIC.

Year.	Date.	Price (Florins per Last).	Exchange.	St ^e p ^r Q ^r
1800 - - -	February 25	- - 850 . 900 - -	21 . 10	75/9 . 80/3
	April 4	- - 850 . 900 - -	21 . -	77/ . 81/7
	— 15	. - 920 . 950 - -	20 . 27	83/10 . 86/6
	June 13	- - 850 . 900 - -	21 . 9	76/ . 80/6
	August 12	- - 830 . 850 - -	21 . 18	73/2 . 74/11
	October 3	- - 860 . 900 - -	22 . 15	72/9 . 76/2
	November 11	- - 1,050 . 1,100 - -	21 $\frac{1}{4}$. -	91/11 . 96/4
1801 - - -	January 6	- - — . 1,200 - -	21 . 10	— 107/1
	— 16	- - — . 1,230 - -	21 . 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 110/3
	February 13	- - — . 1,050 - -	21 . 12	— 93/5
	March 24	- - 1,100 . 1,150 - -	21 . 15	97/5 . 101/10
	May 8	- - 900 . 1,060 - -	21 . 18	79/4 . 93/5
	June 26	- - 900 . 1,020 - -	21 . 15	79/8 . 90/4
	July 28	- - 820 . 1,060 - -	21 . 15	72/7 . 93/10
	August 25	- - 800 . 1,000 - -	21 . 12	71/4 . 89/3
	September 29	- - 720 . 900 - -	22 . -	62/2 . 77/10
	October 27	- - 680 . 850 - -	23 . 6	55/10 . 69/9
	December 1	- - — . 800 - -	22 . 15	— 67/8
	— 15	- - — . 850 - -	22 . 21	— 71/3
1802 - - -	January 15	- - 840 . 880 - -	22 . 18	70/9 . 74/2
	February 26	- - 770 . 850 - -	22 . 18	64/10 . 71/7
	March 5	- - 780 . 880 - -	22 . 18	65/8 . 74/2
	April 2	- - 700 . 850 - -	22 . 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	58/4 . 70/10
	May 7	- - 600 . 650 - -	22 . 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	50 . 54/2
	July 2	- - 670 . 750 - -	22 . 25	55/10 . 62/6
	August 31	- - 650 . 700 - -	23 . 12	52/10 . 56/11
	November 30	- - 600 . 700 - -	23 . 28 $\frac{1}{2}$	47/8 . 55/8
1803 - - -	January 18	- - 650 . 700 - -	23 . 24	52/ . 56/
	March 4	- - 560 . 650 - -	23 . 21	45 . 52/2
	September 2	- - 570 . 640 - -	23 . 6	46/9 . 52/6
	November 1	- - 530 . 650 - -	24 . -	42/ . 51/7
	December 30	- - 600 . 630 - -	24 . 6	47/2 . 49/7
1804 - - -	January 12	- - 600 . 640 - -	24 . 6	47/2 . 50/4
	April 17	- - 580 . 600 - -	25 . -	44/2 . 45/8
	May 29	- - 500 . 560 - -	25 . 6	37/9 . 42/4
	June 29	- - 480 . 520 - -	24 . -	38/1 . 41/3
	August 17	- - 600 . 620 - -	24 . 24	46/1 . 47/7
	October 26	- - 800 . 820 - -	24 . 9	62/8 . 64/3
	November 9	- - 830 . 900 - -	24 . 3	65/7 . 71/1
	December 4	- - 950 . 1,200 - -	24 . 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	74/3 . 93/10
1805 - - -	January 25	- - 900 . 1,150 - -	24 . 6	70/10 . 90/6
	March 8	- - 900 . 1,070 - -	24 . 6	70/10 . 84/2
	April 19	- - 850 . 900 - -	24 . -	67/5 . 71/5
	May 21	- - — . 900 - -	24 . -	— 71/5
	July 9	- - — . 920 - -	23 . 9	— 75/2
	August 13	- - — . 980 - -	23 . 21	— 78/9
	October 15	- - 800 . 950 - -	21 . 24	69/10 . 83/
	December 13	- - 750 . 900 - -	22 . 12	64/6 . 76/2
1806 - - -	May 9	- - 730 . 800 - -	23 . 24	58/5 . 64/
	August 26	- - 700 . 800 - -	24 . 18	54/2 . 61/11
	November 10	- - 780 . 840 - -	22 . -	67/5 . 72/7
1807 - - -	January 12	- - 600 . 820 - -	—	—
1810 - - -	March 20	- - 540 . 580 - -	20 . 15	50/1 . 53/10
1811 - - -	November 5	- - 380 . 420 - -	—	—
1813 - - -	July 29	- - 410 . 430 - -	13 . -	58/7 . 63/
	October 4	- - 410 . 430 - -	13 . 12	58/3 . 61/1
	November 12	- - 400 . 410 - -	13 $\frac{1}{4}$. -	57/6 . 58/11
1814 - - -	July 19	- - 400 . 430 - -	16 . 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	46/7 . 50/1
	August 23	- - 430 . 480 - -	17 . 12	47/ . 52/6
	December 13	- - 450 . 500 - -	—	—
1815 - - -	January 13	- - 470 . 500 - -	17 . 21	50/6 . 53/9
	December 19	- - 420 . 430 - -	18 . -	44/9 . 45/9

FOREIGN QUOTATIONS OF WHEAT—continued.

DANTZIC.

(12 April.)

Year.	Date.	Price (Florins per Last.)	Exchange.	St ^s p ^r Q ^r
1816 - - -	May 7	- - 450 . 460 - -	19 . 3	44/10 . 45/10
	— 31	- - 650 . 660 - -	19 . 12	63/9 . 64/9
	September 13	- - 550 . 580 - -	20 . 6	51/10 . 54/8
	October 25	- - 780 . 800 - -	20 . 4½	73/8 . 75/7
	November 15	- - 800 . 850 - -	20 . -	76/1 . 80/10
	December 3	- - 800 . 885 - -	19 . 24	76/11 . 85/1
1817 - - -	— 23	- - 650 . 720 - -	18 . 15	65/3 . 72/5
1818 - - -	March 13	- - 600 . 700 - -	18 . 19	61/4 . 71/6
	May 13	- - 540 . 670 - -	18¼ . -	60/4 . 73/6
	September 11	- - 590 . 700 - -	18 . 21	60/2 . 71/4
	December 22	- - 530 . 590 - -	18 . 10½	55/ . 61/3
1819 - - -	April 13	- - 430 . 550 - -	19 . -	42/1 . 53/10
	June 1	- - 320 . 400 - -	9 . -	33/ . 41/
	October 15	- - 320 . 400 - -	0 . 15	29/9 . 37/2
	December 17	- - 310 . 390 - -	20 . 20	28/7 . 35/11
1820 - - -	May 9	- - 350 . 480 - -	20 . 8	32/2 . 44/2
	October 31	- - 315 . 320 - -	21 . 6	27/8 . 28/1
1821 - - -	January 12	- - 380 . — - -	- - -	36/ . —

Is the present price in the north of Europe lower than it has generally been during the period to which you refer?—Very much lower than it has generally been, lower than I suppose it to have been for a course of many years.

Is there much wheat from the north of Europe now in bond in this country?—I should suppose the whole quantity of wheat in bond in this country, is about 680,000 quarters.

Does your house hold any?—Yes; on our own account, and the account of others.

You say you hold bonded foreign wheat on account of other parties; are they foreigners?—Some of them are foreigners, and some English.

Do those parties consider the present low prices to be the effect of a general abundance in Europe?—I do not know that I can answer what they consider with regard to the abundance; but they are all extremely averse to having any part of it sold.

Is that feeling, as far as you know, universal?—As far as I know, it is universal.

Are the present prices abroad considered as remunerating, or as losing to the grower?—So far as I know, they are considered ruinous.

Can you state, generally, whether the fall of price in the article of corn, has been greater in America and on the continent of Europe, relatively in the markets of those two parts of the world, or in England, since the year 1810?—I have not made any calculation upon that point.

Take it since 1818?—I should think that the depression had, at least, been equal in those markets; the price at Dantzic, in 1820 and 1821, is come down to 32 s. and 36 s.; and it stood in 1818 at 60 s. from that to 70 s. I think it has fallen pretty much in the same proportion, both on the continent of Europe and in America.

Can you furnish the Committee with any information you may possess as a merchant, with respect to the fall and rise of other commodities, being the staple production of the United States; for instance, cotton, rice, tobacco, or any others, since the year 1818?—I have got the prices of up-land cotton, of rice and tobacco, since 1811 up to the present time. The average of 1818 for up-land, was 32 cents a pound; at three periods in 1819, it stood at 25 cents, 15½ cents, and 19 cents; in 1820, it stood at 17, 18, and 17½; and so far in this year, it stands at 14½ to 16½.

What has been the average fall on tobacco?—The price of tobacco in 1818 stood at 12 cents; and the same tobacco is now at seven.

Rice?—Rice stood nearly at seven dollars the 100 pounds in 1818; the average of 1820 is three.

[The Witness delivered in the statement, which was read, as follows.]

Prices in AMERICA at the beginning, middle, and termination of each year.

	1811.	1812.	1815.	1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.	1821.
Cotton } Upland	C. 9 1/2	C. 9 - 9 1/2	- 23 -	26 - -	- - 32	32 32 32	25 15 1/2 19	17 18 17 1/2	14 1/2 to 16 1/2
Rice - -	\$ 4 1/2	\$ 4 1/2 - 5	- 4 1/2 -	4 1/2 - -	- - 6 1/2	6 1/2 7 1/2 7 1/2	6 3 1/2 4 1/2	3 1/2 3 1/2 3 1/2	2 1/2 to 3
Tobacco -	D. 7	C. 7 - 6 1/2	- 14 -	19 - -	- - 9 1/2	11 12 13	15 8 1/2 8 1/2	7 6 1/2 7 1/2	6 1/2 to 7 1/2
Exchange } on London	Dis. 19	Dis. 16 - 14 1/2	Prem. 1 -	Prem. 7 - -	Prem. - - 2	Prem. Prem. 2 - 2	2 2 2 1/2	3 1/2 2 2	2 to 6 1/2 Premium.

Have the productions of the West Indies, the East Indies and the Baltic, and of other parts of the world, generally speaking, fallen considerably in price within the period referred to?—Very considerably.

To what do you attribute the great fall of price of those articles in America within the last two years?—I consider that our currency has a great deal to do with it, and their's has something to do with it also.

Your statements apply to the prices in the markets of the countries where those productions are respectively raised?—Yes.

Can you furnish the Committee with any information that would show the effect of the fall of prices in this country (whether arising from the contraction of the currency, or from other causes) upon the expense of subsistence of the lower classes of the community?—I have got an account of the expenditure of the Liverpool workhouse for some years. This is a document furnished by the governor of the Liverpool workhouse, for 1817, 1818, 1819 and 1820; and contains an account of the total amount of the expenditure for the support of the poor. In 1817 there were 1,576 average weekly poor in the workhouse, the average expense per head was 3 s. 10 3/4 d. per week; in 1818 the average expense was 3 s. 8 d. a head; in 1819 the average expense was 3 s. 1 3/4 d. per head; and in 1820 the average expense was 2 s. 10 1/4 d. per head.

[The Witness delivered in the Account, which was read, as follows:]

Liverpool Workhouse, April 2d 1821.

Total Amount of the Expenditure for the Support of the Poor of the Workhouse, for Victuals, Clothing, Bedding, Wine, Spirits, Ale, Sugar, Butter, Tea, Tobacco, Snuff, Soap, Candles, Bacon, &c. &c. in the following years:

YEARS	Average Weekly Number through the Year.	Yearly Expenditure.			Average per Head per Week.
		£.	s.	d.	
1817, ending 25th March 1818 - -	1,576	15,707	17	9	3/10 3/4
1818, — 25th „ 1819 - -	1,578	15,383	18	1	3/8
1819, — 25th „ 1820 - -	1,562	12,819	19	2	3/1 1/2
1820, — 25th „ 1821 - -	1,492	11,078	10	8	2/10 1/4

(Signed) Willm Hardman, Governor.

It would appear, that, between 1817 and 1820, the expense of supplying the workhouse with the same articles, has diminished about one-third?—Yes.

Has the number of paupers supplied increased?—No, the number has decreased; it stood in 1817, 1,576; and in 1820 it was 1,492.

You are speaking now, only of poor in the workhouse?—Just so; I have also an account of the out-poor expenditure for 1818, 1819 and 1820.

[The Witness delivered in the same, which was read, as follows:]

Liverpool, 3d April 1821.

(12 April.)

Out Poor Expenditure and Weekly average of PAUPERS for the Three following Years.

YEARS	Average Weekly Number.	Annual Expenditure.		
		£.	s.	d.
1818, ending 25th March 1819 - - - -	3,648	26,096	19	—
1819, — 25th „ 1820 - - - -	3,553	25,495	7	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
1820, — 25th „ 1821 - - - -	3,223	22,225	19	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

(Signed) *Anth. Black*, Overseer.

It appearing that the expense of subsisting the persons in the workhouse at Liverpool, taking the healthy and sick, has diminished one-third; do you apprehend, that the expense of subsistence, generally, to those who earn their livelihood by their labour has diminished in nearly that proportion?—I should think so.

Have the wages of labour diminished in the same proportion?—I must confine myself to Liverpool in answering that question; the wages of labour in Liverpool certainly are the same as they have been for many years.

You have no means of knowing what have been the fluctuations in agricultural labour in your district of country?—No.

Then you consider the labouring classes at Liverpool far better off than they were?—I think so, decidedly.

Would that observation apply generally to the labouring classes in the manufacturing district of Lancaster and the neighbouring county?—I am not quite competent to answer that, the wages have risen lately I have understood in Manchester; but I cannot answer that question decidedly, our own poor are certainly better off.

Do you know whether there is any want of employment in Lancashire?—I believe none; I believe they are fully employed.

Is there in Liverpool?—None.

How lately have the wages at Manchester been raised?—I think within the last two or three months.

They are all employed; and you consider at wages better as compared to the price of subsistence than they were formerly?—Yes.

Do you mean by formerly, during the war?—Yes.

What are the wages of a day labourer at Liverpool?—Three shillings per day.

In what employment are they?—We manufacture nothing in Liverpool; they are labourers merely in turning over the goods, turning the corn and weighing the bales of cotton; merely day labourers.

Then as the price of labour at Liverpool continues the same as it did during the war, and as the price of subsistence has decreased one-third; does it not follow, that their wages have been advanced one-third?—Certainly, in point of power decidedly; but not in money price.

The labouring population of Liverpool having greater means of consumption, by the present relative proportion of their wages to the means of subsistence, and the whole population of Lancashire, so far as you know, being fully employed; are you of opinion, that they consume as much bread as at any former period within your recollection?—I should think they do.

Do you think that the commodities which labourers generally consume, besides bread and meat, have fallen in an equal proportion to corn?—They do not consume so much meat.

Have the commodities which labourers generally consume, fallen as much in proportion?—I know that only by inference; I conceive, that they are altogether better off.

Have other articles fallen in the same proportion as bread?—Not in the same proportion, I think.

From the knowledge which you have of the state of the manufactures of Lancashire, do you know, or is it your opinion, that the master manufacturer at present, is receiving a remunerating price for the capital laid out upon his trade?—I can

David Hodgson,
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(12 April.)

only answer that, generally; my impression is, that trade has generally been very unproductive as well as manufactures.

Have you not heard, that though the population of Manchester is fully employed, the masters universally are losing money?—I certainly have heard general and almost universal complaints of the unproductiveness of capital.

How, in that state of things, can it be, that the prices which the manufacturers obtain for their labour are as great as they were during those periods when the master manufacturer was receiving large profits?—I do not know that the manufacturing labourer does receive as much as he did; the Liverpool labourer does decidedly receive as much; but I conceive that capital is much less productive to the merchant and manufacturer.

From what you know of the state and the condition of the labourers in Lancashire, has it fallen under your observation that they are as well off as they were when trade was in a flourishing state?—Speaking of Liverpool, I think they are as well off as I have known them.

Supposing a man with a monied capital of 100,000*l.* were now to commence trade in Manchester, at the present prices of raw material, machinery, and other things, would he make, at the present prices, a remunerating profit on his capital?—I am afraid not.

In a general state of falling prices, do you conceive that capital can be, generally speaking, advantageously and profitably employed either in manufacture or trade?—Certainly not, I should think.

You recollect the ports of this country being opened for the importation of foreign corn, in November 1816?—I do.

They continued open till February 1819?—Not without being once closed; I think they opened on the 15th of November 1816, and were shut on the 15th of November 1817; they opened on the 15th of February 1818, and were shut from the near ports between the Eyder and the Bidassoa for the six weeks ending the 26th of September 1818; they opened on the 15th November 1818, for the near ports, and they finally closed to foreign importation on the 15th of February 1819, and have not been opened since.

Are you of opinion, that if the alteration which has since been effected in the currency of this country, had been in complete operation at the period when our ports were last open, speculation to the same extent would have taken place in the importation of foreign corn?—I should think not.

Do you think that a great deal of that speculation grew out of the then state of the currency, and of the measures adopted by the Bank of England, of issuing gold coin to the amount of six or seven millions, without at all contracting the circulation of its notes?—I think that the unrestricted currency encouraged speculation always.

Are you of opinion, that in the present state of our currency, if the ports should open again, an improvident speculation to the same extent would take place?—I think not.

You have stated in answer to a question, that in falling prices, it seems almost impossible to employ capital profitably in manufactures or trade; do you think, that in the state of general prices in this country for the last eighteen months, there has been a great contraction of credit between individuals, and that the stocks of goods in the hands of the retailers, have generally been as low as is consistent with the supply of their customers?—The contraction of the currency has unquestionably lessened the transactions, but I am doubtful whether the stocks be very much altered.

Would a man possessing capital, vest more of that capital than was necessary for the immediate wants of his customers, in goods, the price of which he had reason to suppose would be progressively falling?—Certainly not.

Then would not the supplier of those goods be generally induced to suspect the credit of any customer who wanted to increase his stock beyond his usual proportion; and, in consequence, to curtail his credit?—Certainly, if it were the general conviction, that prices were falling; but there may not be a general conviction of such being the state of things.

Are you of opinion, that if the market for wheat was progressively and steadily rising, the general dealers in this article, or in flour, meaning the millers and corn-factors of this country, and all the parties concerned in this extensive trade, would immediately begin to speculate, and to lay in rather larger stocks?—They would lay in larger stocks; but I think that by many of the millers the prices have been considered so low, that they possess a great deal of stock at present; the merchants certainly do not possess great stocks.

From

From what you have observed, do you not rather think, that, for the last twelve months, the general opinion of dealers has been, that prices were at the lowest, and consequently, that they would rather rise than fall?—I think that has been the prevalent opinion this year; I think it was not so strong the last year; the opinion was generally in favour of the rise this year, and it must have had some effect.

Have you ever known any adventure of trade or manufacture which afforded a more than usual profit for a considerable period, upon which there has not ultimately been a re-action, in consequence of the excess of speculation?—That is always the case, unless where there is a monopoly.

Do you conceive that the same general rule would apply to capital employed in agriculture?—If there was scope for it, certainly.

Can you state whether the present prices of corn in the north of Europe, and in the United States, are such as would be deemed remunerating prices, according to the usual acceptation of those words in England, namely, such as would compensate the charges and expenses of the grower, pay the public burdens, and afford a profit or rent to the landlord nearly equivalent to the average of former years?—I am told, in particular, that the farmers who supply the Hamburgh market, are in the greatest distress; and that they are doing that which is quite unusual, that is, obtaining advances upon the crop which they are putting into the ground. It is not very unusual for them to mortgage the crop of rape seed; but that the system has been carried to an extent this year which has not been known before.

Have the public burdens been well paid?—I do not know that.

In your survey, you have taken your averages of the crops in England upon the supposition that the bushel weighs sixty pounds?—Yes.

Have the goodness to state what is the actual weight of a bushel of wheat?—It varies according to the season.

Have the goodness to state the average?—I have not reduced them in that way.

In the bushel of wheat you get at Liverpool, what is the general weight?—The Irish wheat would weigh about 58½ to 59 pounds; the red English wheat, I should think, from 60 to 61 pounds.

Have not the samples of this year been very various?—The English samples, I think, have not generally been fine; the Irish rather better than usual, as compared with the English.

Does not the weight very much depend upon the quality?—The red wheats always weigh heavier than the finest white wheat; fine Essex wheats will not, I think, weigh as much as the red wheats of Lincolnshire.

Is not 60 pounds considerably above the average of a bushel of wheat taken throughout the kingdom?—I think probably it is.

Is not 56 a more accurate weight?—No, I think not.

Do you know what has been supposed to be the general average of production in England?—I think I have heard three quarters and a half, but it is a subject to which I have not paid much attention; I have heard it is much more than that.

Do you mean in the present year?—No, the average produce has been supposed to be much more than the current notion attached to it; I think it was three quarters and a half a statute acre.

Do you suppose the average of England to exceed 28?—That is a subject with which I am acquainted no further than I have heard.

What is the general produce of flour from a bushel of wheat?—That I cannot state.

Does it fall within your knowledge to know what has been the proportion of the sale of flour in Liverpool, in this and any other year?—No; there is no means of knowing that, but by estimate; we have no returns.

Do you know whether the consumption of flour, in Liverpool, has been, this year, equal to what it was three years ago?—No, only by general observation; I have no data upon which to go, beyond that of the remuneration the labourer is receiving.

Have you formed, in your own opinion, any cause for the decreased consumption of animal food?—Yes, I have; the decrease, I think, in the consumption of animal food, may be from two causes; there may be economy in the middle classes of society, who consume a great proportion of animal food, which I think very probable; and on the other hand, I think there has not been the quantity of cattle to be sold.

You were understood to say, that the comparative price of animal food, recently, has been greater than that of corn?—Yes, certainly; as 75 to 55.

If that be the case, how has it happened, that when the profits of the grazier were greater than those of the corn grower, the grazier should have ceased to have kept his

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his land in pasture, and should have turned it to corn?—He might do so at a period two or three years ago, when the price of corn stood decidedly above the price of cattle; the price of corn, within these few years, has stood as high as 105, when the price of cattle was not above 85 during the same period.

You consider that there has been a great increase of tillage within the last two years?—Yes.

How do you account for that increase, when it appears that the profits of the grazier have been greater than those of the corn grower?—I can only tell from the fact that in the places I have taken, the slaughter has been very much less in the past two years.

Do you think there was any inducement for the grazier to plough up his ground and to grow corn in the relative prices of cattle and corn, within the last two years?—In 1817, the average price of corn would be about 107, and in 1818, about 85.

Have you any power of stating that there has been any quantity of pasture land ploughed up and brought into tillage?—No, I cannot state that from my own knowledge; it is only by inference; I have, indeed, been told that some gentlemen have been ploughing up pasture lands in order to increase their rents, in our neighbourhood; the price in 1817, stood for butchers meat at 70, whilst the price of corn stood at 106; therefore the grazier had every inducement to part with his cattle; in 1818, the price stood at 85 for wheat, whilst it stood at 80 for meat; so that he still had the inducement.

Do you mean to state, that within the last two years any considerable increase of the growth of wheat has taken place in Great Britain?—I think a considerable increase has taken place within the last two years.

How long will it be before land can be brought into tillage of wheat?—I am not competent to state that, but I ought rather to qualify the opinion as to the extent of increased cultivation of wheat; it appears to me, land must be under occupation either for cattle or for human food, and if there has been a decided decrease in the number of cattle, land must have been otherwise employed; it may have been employed in wheat or in any other kind of grain.

You do not, of your own knowledge, know that there has been any quantity of pasture land turned into tillage?—No.

What are the present wages of ship-carpenters in Liverpool?—I think they are 5 s. a day.

Have they not had a considerable fall within the last few months?—I am not aware that they have; I speak of the labourers of Liverpool generally.

Does not the price of labour in Liverpool, depend very much on the number of Irish that may be in the town?—Yes, it does.

When wages rise, have you not immediately an influx of Irish into Liverpool?—The employment may be greater, but the wages have not varied for two or three years; they were half-a-crown some years ago.

Does that apply to all kinds of labourers?—We have only one kind of labourer, with the exception of ship carpenters and those connected with shipping.

Have you not a number of men employed on the docks?—Yes; I do not know what their wages are; I suppose they are the same as the others; but I am not certain upon that point.

In consequence of the currency being unrestricted, and therefore often excessive, when it is excessive, will not the foreign exchanges be unfavourable in proportion to that excess?—Yes; I should think so.

As, then, a compensation is made to the foreign seller, by means of the exchange for the depreciation of currency, how does an unrestricted currency encourage the importation of foreign corn?—I think they do not act together so immediately.

To what cause do you ascribe the fall in the price of wheat and flour at Dantzic, and at New York?—I think the wheat trade in Dantzic, and to some extent in New York, is depending upon foreign demand; and of course will be influenced by the prices to be obtained from their greatest customers, which are ourselves.

Do you not think, it may also be influenced by the cost of production?—It would be very much influenced by the quantity; quantity and cost will ultimately govern each other.

Do you ascribe no effects on the price to abundant seasons in those places?—I think they have an effect, and a further effect would be produced by the high prices of 1816 and 1817, having given increased encouragement to bring down grain from the different places.

Do you happen to know, whether the last crops have been abundant at Dantzic and

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and New York?—I believe, in America, they have been abundant; as to the countries which supply Dantzic, I am not so well informed.

Have you ever considered the effect of an abundant crop on the price of corn?—Inasmuch as quantity almost always affects price, I should say an abundant crop would lower the price.

Will it not lower it much more than in proportion to the abundance?—That has been a matter of doubt, which I have not been able to understand; it certainly is a received opinion that it will.

The means you employ, enable you to ascertain the comparative quantities of corn obtained from year to year on a given quantity of land; but you have no means of knowing, with accuracy, the increase or diminution of the quantity of land devoted to tillage?—None.

It is then possible, that in 1819, in which year the quantity per acre was the lowest as compared with the two preceding years, the aggregate quantity raised in the United Kingdom might nevertheless be equal or even exceed the aggregate quantity of the two preceding years?—I should think it would not exceed the aggregate quantity of the last two years; I think the difference is too great; but I think there are causes that did make it greater in the whole produce of the country than the figure indicates, and that, also, with a really less quantity than is commonly in the country, made it last till harvest. The figure of 28, certainly represents a very low crop; we had previously had very large importations, during the years 1817 and 1818; part of those importations remained over, and came into the consumption of 1819; that of 1819, in consequence of the lessened number of cattle, was greater than is indicated in the figure, and the pressure of the contraction of the currency upon all the middle men accustomed to hold stock, induced the continued supplying of the wheat of the country from the farmer, without the accumulation of stock any where till the very point of harvest; and at the commencement of the last harvest, we had less wheat on hand than we have usually.

How do you account for the great importations of wheat in the years immediately subsequent to those in which you have stated that we had abundant crops; in 1819, for example, it appears we imported 1,532,000 quarters of wheat; when in 1818, the quantity imported was only 793,000; and in 1817, 100,000 quarters.

[*The Witness referred to the Return to the House of Commons.*]

This account appears to have been made up in January 1819; so that this is not the import of 1819, but of 1818, on the crop of 1817.

Is it your opinion that the low amount of the stock of cattle, and the comparatively low prices of corn, will lead to a diminished growth of corn, and to the increased production of stock?—I should say that such is the natural course; and that it would decidedly be at once in progress, but there is a possible cause of delay; for if the agriculturists be as distressed as is stated, it may be, that as they cannot make cattle available in less than two or three years, it will require more capital to enable them to remain that period, than they can readily possess themselves of.

At any rate you think the low profits of the arable farmer will lead to a diminished production of corn?—I do not know whether at any rate.

Explain why that should not be the natural effect?—If it be unproductive to the farmer, I should think that naturally will be the case.

In your scale of the crops, you have stated, that the crops of 1817 and 1818 were good crops; by the returns before the Committee, we imported 793,000, and 100,000 quarters of wheat in those years?—The crops of 1817 and 1818 were both on a less scale than the crops of 1819 and 1820; for the reason I have stated, I think that the 32 and 33 would undergo a considerable deduction, from the number of cattle then in the country.

You have stated, that you think a considerable effect has been produced on the price of corn, from the restoration in the value of the currency; what effect, do you think, has been produced on the price from that cause, since the Act for the restoration of the Mint standard, in 1819?—I understand it is pretty generally admitted, that there is a contraction of the currency equal to from twenty to twenty-five per cent; if there be that contraction in the currency, and if you take the nine millions of quarters, at four pounds, the average of the last seven or eight years, you will have reduced it one-fourth; and if you go to beef, which, I say, is another thirty-six millions, you will have taken eighteen millions off seventy-two, by the operation of the currency.

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Your calculation is founded upon the assumption, that the reduction in the amount of the currency has been to the amount of 25 per cent?—Yes.

But you have no knowledge of that being the fact?—It is a subject of discussion; but I am under the impression that there has been that depreciation.

You have no knowledge of the fact of the currency having been reduced 25 per cent in quantity?—I do not know the amount of the currency in 1819 and 1820.

According to your experience in the use of money, at what do you estimate the altered value of money, comparing the period when it was most depreciated with the present time?—I have not gone into a minute calculation; I conceive it to have operated on all commodities to the extent of 25 or 30 per cent; though, from the variations in quantity in many commodities, the currency not being the only operative cause of alteration, it will not show equally upon all articles.

Do you suppose it is possible to measure that alteration by any precise amount of notes of the Bank of England, or by any other data?—I should be afraid not to measure it precisely, because every other commodity is so varying in itself; perhaps the fairest way, and the most likely way, would be to take the same given quantity of all commodities and put them down at the current price, and see what effect it wrought upon them in that way; I mean of all the leading staple commodities.

Is it by a rough estimate of that alteration, that you have come in your own mind to the conclusion of the altered value of money you have stated?—I have rather taken the opinion of alteration, as to the extent in the value, from what I have seen stated, than from actual calculation.

Might not the prices of those commodities which you have mentioned vary in value, independently of all variations in the value of the currency?—Yes, they might unquestionably; but, I think in the document of the Liverpool expenditure of the workhouse, I have offered as fair a criterion as any which can be found; there the currency question acts fully, and it appears there is a depreciation of 30 per cent in the last three or four years.

The question is not with respect to the depreciation in the prices of commodities, but refers simply to the rise of the value of money. You are understood to say, you measure the variations in the value of currency by the alterations in the price of commodities?—Yes.

Is there any other mode of valuing money, but in applying it to commodities generally?—None, that I am aware of.

If commodities, generally, have undergone any great alteration in value, is it not presumable, that that alteration is in the standard by which they are measured, and not in the commodities themselves?—If that effect shall be universal, I should say it was an alteration in the value of money.

Mr. Thomas Evans; Called in; and Examined.

Mr. T. Evans.

YOU live in Gloucestershire?—Yes.

You farm largely there?—I occupy nearly seven hundred acres of land.

Can you state to the Committee, what your profits and losses in the last year's farming have been?—I have not my account with me; I did not come to town prepared to come before the Committee; and I do not know that I could exactly state it if I were at home.

Can you state generally, the situation of farmers in that part of the country?—They are in very great distress.

Do you suppose they are living upon the profits of their farms or upon their capital?—I conceive they have derived no profits from their farms for the last three years.

In what part of Gloucestershire do you reside?—Between Tewkesbury and Gloucester, near Tewkesbury.

Your land is good there?—It is pretty good.

What were your crops?—Our crops of wheat and barley were good; our crop of beans very bad.

Do you suppose, that the abundance of the crop compensated you at all, for the lowness of the price of your wheat last year?—I think not.

Can you state any particular instances of great distress in that part of the country which have come within your knowledge?—I know two or three very industrious men that have been ruined.

Can you point out any remedies that have suggested themselves to your mind, to alleviate the distresses of the farmer?—I think one great remedy would be, a profitable

fitable employment for our population, and securing to the British farmer a market for his produce.

Mr.
Thomas Evans.

Is there an increased growth of potatoes in your country?—Not any material increase that I am aware of.

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What sort of a market do you get for your cattle now; do you get a good price for your meat?—We are getting a much worse price now than we have had; but we get as good a price as the average of the kingdom.

Are you much burthened with poor now?—Very much.

What are the wages of the labourer at this time?—They are much lower than they were six or seven years ago.

Is there any manufactory carried on in your neighbourhood?—In the borough of Tewkesbury, there is a large hosiery manufacture carried on.

Are there any farms without tenants in your part of the country?—Yes; there are several.

If a farm is to be let at a fair rent, is there any difficulty in procuring tenants?—I think there are many farms that cannot now be let at any price; stiff poor land that cannot be let at any price. I know of farmers that have been in the occupation, respectable responsible men, and they have told me they have given them up, and are determined not to take them again at any price.

Those farms are now offered to be let, and there is no person willing to take them?—I believe not.

Do you know the fact, or has only the late tenant told you that?—The late tenants have told me they would not take them; and I know they are not let.

Have rents been reduced at all in your neighbourhood?—They have.

To what extent; twenty per cent?—In some instances from ten to twenty per cent.

Is yours an arable farm?—I have about an equal proportion, arable and grass.

Veneris, 13^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

David Hodgson, Esq.

Again called in; and Examined.

IN a former part of your evidence you gave it as your opinion, that the present low price of corn is to be attributed partly to the abundance of the last crop, and partly to the extension of growth; do you mean a general extension of growth throughout the kingdom, or only in that particular neighbourhood in which you live?—I only inferred an extension of growth, I had not observed it; I inferred it, as I stated yesterday, from the documents I gave of the falling off of the consumption of butchers meat.

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(13 April.)

You have stated that there has been a falling off of butchers meat used at Liverpool, and at some manufacturing towns which you mentioned, and that the falling off was to the amount of about fifteen per cent?—On 1820, as compared with 1818, it was about fifteen per cent; it was not so much as that in one year.

To what do you attribute this diminution in the consumption of meat?—I think it may not improbably be ascribed to different causes; one to some increase of economy in the middle classes of society; but I should think it is mainly owing to the want of cattle in the country, because it appears to me, that the price of meat has been better supported than almost any thing else. If it had been entirely from the falling off in the consumption, and that the ordinary stock of cattle had remained in the country, I should think, as matter of course, cattle would have fallen as much as any thing else, which does not appear to be the case. I am told, that in our part of the country, cattle are very scarce.

Has the price of meat been tolerably steady last year at Liverpool?—The price of meat fell a halfpenny a pound last year at Liverpool.

What is meat selling at, at Liverpool, now?—Seven pence halfpenny a pound.

Do you speak of the retail price, or wholesale, in the market?—The retail price.

Is there any decrease in the population of Liverpool?—I should think an increase.

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Since when?—I am of the opinion, but it is only opinion, that there has been an annual increase in Liverpool, and still going on.

If there is an annual increase of population, and no diminution of wages, can you account for how there can be a diminution in the consumption of meat?—Butchers' meat is much higher, according to average proportion of value, as compared with wheat; meat stands at 75, while wheat stands at 54, therefore the labourer has a much greater inducement to consume wheat than meat; he is obtaining a larger proportion of it for the same money.

Are you prepared to state that there is an increased consumption of wheat in Liverpool?—I think so; with a diminution in the quantity of animal food, though there will be an increased growth of wheat, there must be also an increased consumption of it.

Is there not a disposition on the part of the population of this country, and particularly of the manufacturing districts, to buy meat whenever they can afford it, in preference to living entirely on bread?—I should certainly think there was, and that it would be preferred, as matter of choice.

Then is not the living on bread *pro tanto*, a sign of poverty?—No, I do not think absolutely so; because the relative value of the one to the other, may induce preference as matter of interest. The price of bread may be so much cheaper than meat, that the poor as matter of economy, will prefer eating bread-corn.

Do you know of any bonded or warehoused corn having been brought into the market illegally at Liverpool?—No, neither do I think it to have been the case.

Do you think, under the present law, it can be smuggled out?—I think it possibly might be smuggled out, but that the character of the merchants would prevent it.

If corn is warehoused under the act of 1815, is it regularly measured when it is deposited in the warehouses?—I believe it is.

By the Custom-house officer?—I believe it is; but I am not certain whether great care is taken, when the locks are taken off, to measure it out again.

There is no inducement of payment, or duty on warehousing, to make the Custom-house officer see that it is regularly measured on going in and coming out?—None; the necessity of turning grain, and interfering with it, does lay it more open than any thing else, but I believe no such thing has been done at Liverpool.

State to the Committee, when corn is warehoused at Liverpool, under whose custody it is placed?—The Customs.

Exclusively?—Exclusively.

Has not the merchant a control?—The Customs have one lock, and the merchants another; the corn is deposited in what the Customs esteem secure warehouses, they have one lock, and the merchant another; and the corn is never turned without the presence of an officer from the Customs.

Are the locks the same?—No, they are different locks.

So that neither party can have access to the granary without the knowledge of the other?—Certainly.

Is that the general law?—Yes, it is the practice with all goods kept under the security of the revenue.

Is any Custom-house officer in attendance at those warehouses?—Always.

Can you state the hours of his attendance?—I really do not recollect exactly; I think it is from nine in the morning till evening; whilst the labouring men work.

Supposing it to be from nine in the morning to six in the evening; from the period of his leaving the warehouse, it is then open to the merchant, or the person whose property it is?—An officer is always with the person, if he has a warehouse filled with corn; he cannot get from one room to another to examine the corn without the officer, who is always there with his keys, like a jailor.

Has not the same locker the custody of a certain number of warehouses?—A certain number of rooms.

Has there been any complaint, that there is not a sufficient number of lockers?—I am not aware of that.

What is the salary of the locker?—That I do not know, but he is generally an old infirm person.

Does any person under the Customs take a survey of the corn, as to its quantity?—I believe it is measured on coming in.

On going out?—I am not quite so clear as to its going out; I know it was the subject of discussion lately, that it ought to be done.

It is never gauged in the warehouse?—It is not; that would be a very effectual way.

Are

Are there many hours on which persons may have access to the warehouses without the privity of the Custom House officer?—Never; and I do not believe that any corn has been smuggled out in that way; the only evasion of the spirit of the Act which there has been, has been an exportation of bonded corn to the Isle of Man.

Do you know of any ports having been opened at home, by forcing up the markets in the small markets of Carnarvonshire and Anglesea?—I do not know the fact; I have heard it mentioned.

You spoke of a diminished consumption of meat at Liverpool; was the number of ships victualled there the last year, the same as in former years?—I have a document which will show the amount of dock duties paid in Liverpool; and by which it appears that the tonnage in last year, 1820, was 805,033 tons; in 1819 it was 867,318 tons; and in 1818, 754,690; and that, with the exception of 1819, which is the largest year, 1820 is still an increase as compared with any preceding year.

You state that the price of meat was about the same now, as it had been in Liverpool?—I have been told that it is likely to rise again.

Is it not materially affected by the occasional influx of cattle from Ireland?—That would not affect the average price of the year.

Were you rightly understood, that there is only one person who comes under the denomination of locker, and that he is an old man?—Oh! no; locker is a description of officer of which there are a great number.

They are chiefly of that description of men?—Yes.

Adverting to your mode of estimating the crop, does your survey take place so immediately before harvest that it cannot be subsequently affected by mildew?—I think it might be affected by weather, but not by mildew; if, for instance, we take our survey the week just before the harvest commences, and bad weather should come afterwards, the crop would be affected; but the crop has usually arrived at maturity, and the mildew would not affect it.

Are you aware that, in many parts of England, they begin to cut their corn long before it is ripe?—Not earlier than, according to our idea, what we should term ripe.

Not while the straw is green?—Not that I am aware of.

Are you aware that a variety of soils may be very often shown in the space of a hundred square yards?—Yes, I should think so.

Do you suppose that the same quantity of flour can be produced from a quarter of Irish wheat as can from English wheat, supposing both to be equal in respect of weight, and equal in colour?—I hardly know how to answer that question; I should think not from the best English wheat certainly, nor from English wheat generally.

If the opinion be true, that Scotch wheat is less productive than English wheat, in consequence of the inferiority of the climate, may not the same reasoning be applied to parts of England as well as Scotland?—Certainly it is so, I believe.

Are you aware that a sack of Scotch flour weighing two hundred and a half, will produce three quartern loaves less than a sack of English flour of the same weight?—I was not aware of that; but I think it very likely.

Will barley of the north of England or of Scotland, produce the same quantity of spirits, as barley of the south of England of the same weight will?—That is a subject to which I have not paid attention; I do not know.

You have stated that in your opinion, the same quantity of Irish corn would produce less flour than English corn; are you sufficiently well acquainted to give that as a fact?—I can give as a fact, that the same weight of Irish wheat would not bring the price of the same weight of English wheat, bushel for bushel.

Has not the average quality of Irish wheat imported within the last two years, exceeded the quality of much wheat of English growth brought to the same markets?—No; the average quality of Irish wheat in the last two years has been decidedly below the average quality of English wheat; it has been less below the average quality of English the last two years than in preceding years.

Applying to oats, is the outer husk of the potatoe and the Poland oat, as thick as the Tantara oat?—I do not know; we have to do chiefly with Irish oats in our market.

Are you to be understood that your observations apply exclusively to wheat?—Entirely so.

And confined to particular parts of England in that respect?—No; so far as our examinations go, we conceive they give us a full average of England.

Are you aware that the returns which you have given of the crops, gives an average upon the six years, of 32 bushels per acre; and that the common reputed average

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is supposed to be under 20 per acre?—The 32 is the gross produce, not the net; not having allowed any thing for waste.

Allowing every thing for waste, admitting of large deductions on the scale of waste, your average would be about 26 bushels per acre?—Thereabouts.

Are you aware that the estimated supposed average, has been hitherto laid under twenty?—I was not aware of that; I had understood, without paying much attention to the subject, that it was about three quarters and a half.

If your estimate was correct, how could you account for so large a consumption of the home growth, within the period to which you have alluded, to which also must be added, the large importations of foreign growth?—1815 stands as a very good crop; and 1814 was a good crop; 1813 was an extraordinary good crop; now, as the result of these three crops, I think it will appear, that at the beginning of 1816, the prices fell as low as they are now, and we had an export of corn; I have the average price noted in January 1816, and, as I think, a consequence of these three crops, down to 53s. 7d.; then came the very bad crop of 1816, which was very much below what, at least, the number of bushels per acre for that year indicates; so we considered it; as the wheat was besides very much injured by the weather in that year; then in 1817, as the consequence of the crop of 1816, came an excess of import, of about 800,000 quarters; the crop of 1817, stands at 32, which is very near the figure of the average; but from the greater quantity of cattle in the years 1817 and 1818, as will be seen by the slaughter of those years, and which cattle must have been fed during that crop, it must have been upon a very diminished scale in point of extent; and I think a deduction should be made from the produce; that would place it considerably under what the figure represents.

Are your observations with respect to the slaughter of cattle, extended to the kingdom generally, or to Liverpool only?—To Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield and Leeds.

From what period do you date the increase in the consumption of corn, and the decrease in the consumption of meat?—I should date it from the period, when the prices became decidedly in favour of the one, and against the other; I should think it would commence sometime about the conclusion of 1819.

You have stated yourself to be a holder of foreign corn, and that you have consignments also from foreigners, are those from different parts of Europe, or from America?—Chiefly from Dantzic; we hold considerable quantities of flour from America also.

Do you not suppose that the expense of cultivation is much greater in some parts of Europe, than in others; and that there is a difference in the expense of cultivation, between Europe and America?—I should think there was; labour for instance is much higher in America than in Europe; but against this, there is but little land rent in America generally.

If there is a difference with respect to the expense of cultivation, might not the cost of freight and warehousing in England, be ruinous in one instance, and comparatively of little importance in another?—If a supply of wheat can be got from one place, at a much less price than another, none, of course, would come from the dear place; upon the price in England, the price would, in a great measure, depend in the places from which the importation would take place.

Do you think the price of corn is regulated by the price of labour?—I should think there are many component parts in the price of corn.

Is not the importation of foreign corn always the subject of unlimited speculation?—Certainly not.

Is not the corn market of England an object of constant interest with all the European powers, and also in America?—I should think it was.

As the harvests of 1818 and 1819 were supposed to have been remarkably abundant in the north of Europe, including Germany, the Netherlands, and the north of France, do you believe that there is at present any great accumulation of grain in those countries?—I believe there is a large stock of wheat at Dantzic; I am unable to state with regard to the other places; in the Mediterranean, there is a deficiency.

How is it with respect to the north of Europe, and the Low Countries generally?—I should think there was a good stock of grain.

Then their power of supply, in the event of the ports opening, must depend in a great degree, upon the accumulation?—No doubt of it.

Are you aware of what was the highest rate of weekly earnings, at Manchester, in the cotton trade, during the war?—No, I am not; I have forgotten it, if I ever heard it.

Has

(13 April.)

Has the price of cotton, at Manchester, lately been steadily on the rise, or has it declined within the last month?—There has been a rise in the last few weeks on cotton, and it is rather lowering again.

Do you suppose that the general diet of manufacturers, at Manchester, is now better or worse than it was during the war?—I cannot venture to answer that question, not being fully informed upon it.

Do you think the price of labour depends upon the price of wheat?—I should think it would ultimately be affected by it; but I think the prices of labour do not vary so quickly as of many other things.

Does it not depend on various other things?—Upon the whole facility of living; if there be a greater facility of living, the number of labourers will increase, and the price will affect the number in the course of some time.

Does it not depend upon the price of other commodities, which are equally necessary to the labourer?—Yes, it will depend upon the whole means of living.

Does the duty of the locker require his attention to any thing beyond the mere opening and shutting of the warehouse?—No; he remains with the person employed by the merchant during the time the corn is turned, and he has no other duty.

He remains inside the warehouse?—Yes.

What description of locks are used?—The Government have padlocks; the merchant has a fixed lock, the same as used upon doors generally.

What interval passes between the visits of a locker to a warehouse, or is it possible that it may happen, that he may be absent from any particular warehouse for a considerable time?—Bonded wheat, of course, requires turning, perhaps once a fortnight; I do not know, whether he visits in the mean time or not.

Does bonded wheat require turning if it has been kiln dried?—Yes, it does.

In the intervals between the turning, you do not know, whether the locker visits the warehouses or not?—I do not.

Are the warehouses where corn is warehoused, in point of fact, as secure as those where tobacco and other articles paying duty are warehoused?—They are deemed so by Government.

Would the gauging corn from time to time be an expensive and troublesome operation?—I do not think it would.

Might it not be done with the same facility as the maltster's trade is?—Yes, I should think it might; the merchant ought not to be compelled to have it kept at any particular height, but such height as may best suit his purpose, otherwise it might be an immense sacrifice of rent, to be compelled to have it at any regulation height. I do not think as regards Liverpool, that there is any ground for the least apprehension as to smuggling it; I do not believe that any has ever been taken out of bond improperly.

Have you not what is called a sample drawn of all corn coming coastwise?—We have samples of all corn we sell.

Foreign as well as English?—Of all.

Is there any allowance made for screening the corn?—It is not usual to screen corn, it generally remains in the state in which it is received; it may occasionally be done, but it is not the common practice.

Are you of opinion that if British wheat was kiln dried in the same manner as the foreign, it might be kept in warehouse from two to three years without considerable injury?—Yes; I should think without kiln drying.

Is not the foreign wheat generally kiln dried?—No, I rather think it is not, generally; sometimes it is.

In your opinion, does the price of corn on the Continent generally rise, when there is a considerable demand from Great Britain?—I should think always.

Have you any further documents with respect to the price of wheat and flour, or other papers which you think it material to furnish to the Committee?—I have.

[The Witness delivered in the Accounts, which were read, as follow:]

David Hodgson,
Esq.

(13. April.)

FOREIGN QUOTATIONS OF WHEAT.

Year.	Date.	Price.	Exchange.	Sterling, per Quar.
ANTWERP:				
1815 - - -	November 16	11 a' 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. p' hect.	36/10 - -	50/ a' 51/6
	December 14	10 a' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - -	37/6 - -	45/ a' 47/3
1816 - - -	October 17	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ a' 21 gs. p' hect	40/2 - -	85/3 a' 87/6
1819 - - -	April 23	10 a' 11 fl. - - -	37/2 fl. - -	43/4 a' 48/
	June 22	10 a' 12 - - -	38/2 - -	42/6 a' 51/
	October 22	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - -	39/5 - -	40/
	Dec. 21	8 $\frac{1}{4}$ a' 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ - - -	39/3 - -	37/ a' 43/4
1820 - - -	May 16	10 fl. - - -	39/6 fl. - -	41/3
AMSTERDAM:				
1815 - - -	Dec. 29	170 a' 250 G. gs. p' last	36/6 - -	41/11 a' 61/7
1816 - - -	Oct. 22	415 a' 430 G. gs. - -	40/ fl. - -	93/4 a' 96/8
1817 - - -	December 30	400 a' 480 G. gs. p' d ^a	36/6 - -	105/7 a' 125/5
1818 - - -	April 6	200 a' 340 - - -	36/1 - -	49/10 a' 84/9
	— 24	320 - - -	36/1 - -	79/4
	September 22	290 a' 335 - - -	36/6 - -	71/6 a' 82/7
1820 - - -	May 5	220 a' 235 p' last	11 fl. 16. - -	49/6 a' 53/1
ARCHANGEL:				
Wheat:				
1818 - - -	February 8	28 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ro. chetw. - -	12 d. - -	39 $\frac{1}{8}$
1819 - - -	May 5	22 $\frac{1}{4}$ d ^o - d ^o - -	11 $\frac{1}{4}$ - -	29/1
ALICANT:				
1818 - - -	August 15	16 a' 20 d. c. p' cahiz	42 d. - -	64/ a' 80/
BARCELONA:				
1815 - - -	November 4	22 a' 23 pist. p' quartera	38 d. - -	67/4 a' 70/
1816 - - -	December 23	21 a' 24 - - -	37 d. - -	69/ a' 79/
	October 12	24 $\frac{1}{2}$ a' 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. p' q.	36 d. - -	76/10 a' 79/11
1818 - - -	May 1	4 hd. r. c. 4 10 p' q.	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ - -	69/11 a' 78/8
	September 7	3 - - 4 8 - -	53 $\frac{1}{2}$ - -	57/1 a' 7/5
BORDEAUX:				
1815 - - -	December 5	20 francs p' hect	23 f. 40	49/8
CADIZ:				
1815 - - -	November 1	60 a' 80 re. p' fannega	- - -	62/ a' 83/
GRONINGEN:				
Wheat:				
1816 - - -	October 23	12 a' 15 gr. p' mudde	40 fl. - -	64/4 a' 80/6
1818 - - -	April 4	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ a' 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. p' mudde	36/1 - -	42/7 a' 67/7
	May 14	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ a' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - d ^o	- - -	45/6 a' 61/8
	September 19	10 a' 10/15 - - d ^o	36/6 - -	58/1 a' 62/5
1819 - - -	June 2	8 a' 8 $\frac{5}{10}$ fl. - - d ^o	- - -	46/4 a' 47/10
1820 - - -	May 16	6 fl. 10 a' 7 10 p' mudde	11 fl. 16 - -	30/5 a' 35/1
GENOA:				
Wheat:				
1818 - - -	April 30	29 $\frac{1}{2}$ liv. p' mina	28 b. 2 - -	52/
1819 - - -	December 4	16 a' 18 - - -	30. 10 - -	24/7 a' 27/7
HAVRE:				
1815 - - -	November 20	48 a' 50 fr. p' sack	23 fr. - -	45/2 a' 47/
	December 16	48 a' 50 - p' 190 kil.	23. 40 - -	44/10 a' 46/8
Flour:				
	November 20	40 francs p' bil. - -	23 fr. - -	35/ p' barrel
HAMBURG:				
Flour:				
1815 - - -	November 17	10 mks. p' 100 lbs.	33 fr. - -	30/ p' barrel
Wheat:				
	December 19	120 a' 140 dol. p' last	33/2 fl. - -	41/6a' 48/
Flour:				
	—	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ a' 18 m. cur. - -	33/2 - -	p' 280 lbs. 59 a' 60/
1816 - - -	November 1	180 a' 272 rix d. p' last	35/4 fl. - -	57/8 a' 86/6
Wheat:				
1817 - - -	December 30	220 r. d ^l . p' last	35 fl. - -	72/

Foreign Quotations of Wheat—continued.

(13 April.)

Year.	Date.	Price.	Exchange.	Sterling, per Quar.
HAMBURG:				
Wheat:				
1818 - - -	March 24	208 a' 220 r. d. p' last	33/ 6 fl.	69/1 a' 73/1
	May 13	185 a' 224 - - -	33/ - - -	61/10 a' 74/11
	August 28	128 a' 210 - - -	33 1/4 - - -	42/9 a' 70/2
	December 15	170 a' 190 - - -	32/8 - - -	61/4 a' 68/
1819 - - -	June 18	130 a' 140 - - -	34/6 - - -	44/ a' 47/
	October 19	119 a' 125 - - -	36/ - - -	36/ a' 37/9
	December 31	114 a' 118 - - -	35/6 - - -	34/11 a' 36/2
1820 - - -	May 19	119 a' 127 B ^d . a' p' last	36/ 1 fl.	36/9 a' 39/3
	September 29	105 a' 134 - - -	36/8 - - -	31/7 a' 40/4
1821 - - -	March 12.	- - - - -	- - - - -	30/ a' 35/
KONINGSBERG:				
Wheat:				
1819 - - -	May 19	320 a' 400 fl.	19 fl. - - -	34/3 a' 42/5
LISBON:				
1815 - - -	November 10	420 a' 440 rees p' alq.	60 d. - - -	44/2 a' 46/3
1818 - - -	April 4	760 rees p. alq.	60 d. - - -	74/1
		Flour 9,000 a' 10,000 rees.	60 d. - - -	45/ a' 50 p' bar.
LEGHORN:				
Wheat:				
1815 - - -	November 4	31 a' 32 liv. p' sack	- - - - -	75/6 a' 78/
	December 16	26 a' 27 - - -	56 d. - - -	74/11 a' 77/9
Flour:				
		12 a' 13 p' izze and bol	- - - - -	p ^r bar. 44/6 a' 49/8
Wheat:				
1817 - - -	December 29	28 liv. eff. p' sack	52 5/8 - - -	78/10 p' q ^r
1818 - - -	March 29	21 - eff. - - -	53 d. - - -	56/
	April 23	19 - - - - -	53 1/2 - - -	57/4
	September 5	18 a' 5 - - -	- - - - -	50/7
1819 - - -	April 1	17 liv. eff. p' sack	53 1/4 - - -	47/7
	June 19	15 - - - - -	52° - - -	40/2
	October 9	12 1/2 a' 13 - - -	49 d. - - -	31/6 a' 32/9
	December 18	13 a' 13 1/2 - - -	49 d. - - -	32/9 a' 34/
1820 - - -	May 4	13 a' 13 liv. eff. p' sack	48 3/8 - - -	27/5 a' 32/4
	October 1	13 a' 21 - - -	48 1/4 - - -	32/3 a' 52/1
1821 - - -	February 1	14 a' 22 - - -	48 d. - - -	34/7 a' 54/4
LIEBAU:				
Wheat:				
1815 - - -	November 2	96 a' 132 sr. p' last	540 co. - - -	33/ a' 45
MARSEILLES:				
1815 - - -	December 23	49 francs p' charge	23 f. 44 - - -	70/
1816 - - -	October 21	59 a' 60 fr. p' charge	24 3/4 fr. - - -	82/10 a' 88/7
1818 - - -	May 2	36 a' 38 fr. p' charge	23 1/10 fr. - - -	56/ a' 59
1819 - - -	June 6	- 28 - - -	23 fr. 80 - - -	43/
1821 - - -	February 27	32 fr. D° - - -	- - - - -	38/
MADEIRA:				
Flour:				
1815 - - -	November 10	\$ 7 a' 10 p' bib.	14°/o pr. - - -	33/9 a' 48/8
MEMEL:				
Wheat:				
1817 - - -	November 29	600 a' 700 fr. p' do.	18 fs. 15 - - -	60/5 a' 70/5
Oporto:				
Wheat:				
1818 - - -	September 22	900 a' 1,000 r ^d . p' aly.	60 1/2 - - -	72/7 a' 80/8
ODESSA:				
Wheat:				
1819 - - -	March 9	16 a' 20 ro. p' chetw.	11 1/4 - - -	20/11 a' 26/1
PETERSBURG:				
Wheat:				
1817 - - -	December 3	33 rub. p' chetw.	11 1/32 - - -	48/6
1818 - - -	February 22	33 - D° - - -	11 1/16 - - -	44/8
	April 19	33 a' 36 D° - - -	11 1/4 - - -	43/1 a' 47
	August 27	30 - D° - - -	12 1/16 - - -	40/9
	December 8.	30 - D° - - -	12 1/2 - - -	41/8

David Hodgson,
Esq.Foreign Quotations of Wheat—*continued.*

(13 April.)

Year.	Date.	Price.	Exchange.	Sterling, per Quar.
PETERSBURG :— <i>continued.</i>				
Wheat :				
1819 - - -	March 30	30 ro. p' D° - - -	11 $\frac{17}{2}$ - - -	38/5
	June 4	27 - - - - -	11 $\frac{1}{8}$ - - -	38/8
	September 28	23 a' 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - -	10 $\frac{7}{16}$ - - -	26/9 a' 27/3
	December 10	20 - - - - -	10 $\frac{5}{16}$ - - -	22/11
1820 - - -	April 20	26 ro. - - - - -	9 $\frac{7}{8}$ - - -	28/10
	September 17	22 a' 23 - - - - -	10 - - - - -	24/5 a' 25/7
ROUEN :				
Wheat :				
1815 - - -	December 10	23 francs p' last - - -	23 fr. 40 - - -	57/3
ROSTOCK :				
Wheat :				
1817 - - -	December 8	196 a' 200 r. d. p' last - - -	5 c. 16 - - -	54/6 a' 55/7
1816 - - -	October 31	200 a' 216 r. d. p' last - - -	5 $\frac{2}{3}$ r. d. - - -	58/10 a' 63 $\frac{1}{4}$
1818 - - -	September 7	192 a' 200 - - - - -	5 r. d. 19 - - -	61/11 a' 64/6
	December 28	168 a' 170 wx. 2/3 - - -	5 . 10 - - -	47/5 a' 48/4
1819 - - -	April 1	156 a' 160 - - - - -	5 c. 17 - - -	40/3 a' 41/3
	October 18	88 a' 110 - - - - -	5 c. 37 - - -	22/8 a' 28/3
1820 - - -	January 3	108 a' 110 - - - - -	5 . 36 - - -	27/10 a' 28 $\frac{1}{4}$
	May 15	128 - - - - -	129 $\frac{7}{8}$ f. c ^t 36/1 - - -	31/9
	September 18	104 a' 112 - - - - -	5 . 42 - - -	26/3 a' 28/3
1821 - - -	January 8	80 a' 95 - - - - -	- - - - -	22/ a' 26/
ROTTERDAM :				
Wheat :				
1816 - - -	November 4	380 a' 440 G. gs. p' last - - -	32 $\frac{1}{8}$ fl. - - -	90/8 a' 103/11
1817 - - -	December 2	330 a' 385 - - - - -	37 - - - - -	79/3 a' 92/6
1818 - - -	September 29	280 a' 324 - - - - -	37/1 - - - - -	65/5 a' 75/4
1820 - - -	October 24	150 a' 180 - - - - -	40/3 - - - - -	32/3 a' 39/3
1821 - - -	February 6	190 a' 250 - - - - -	12 fl. 12 - - -	29/2 a' 38/4
RIGA :				
WHEAT :				
1817 - - -	December 13	146 s ^r . p' last - - - - -	11 $\frac{2}{16}$ - - - - -	59/6
1818 - - -	March 14	190 D° - - - - -	11 $\frac{3}{4}$ - - - - -	62/7
	December 26	130 a' 150 p' last - - - - -	12 - - - - -	41/5 47/10
1819 - - -	April 8	135 s ^r - - - - -	11 $\frac{1}{4}$ - - - - -	44/1
	June 6	100 a' 110 - - - - -	11 $\frac{1}{16}$ - - - - -	33/3 a' 36/3
	September 18	70 a' 110 - - - - -	10 $\frac{3}{4}$ - - - - -	20/3 a' 31/11
	December 7	80 a' 95 - - - - -	377 $\frac{1}{4}$ 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ - - -	22/2 a' 26/4
1820 - - -	May 2	100 a' 115 s ^r . - - - - -	380/10 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 10 - - -	27/6 a' 31/7
	October 2	90 a' 110 - - - - -	377 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 10 - - -	24/1 a' 29/5
1821 - - -	January 22	90 a' 110 - - - - -	375 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 9 $\frac{1}{16}$ - - -	23/11 a' 29/3
	March 9	80 a' 110 - - - - -	383 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 97/8 - - -	24/9 a' 30/2
STETTIN :				
Wheat :				
1819 - - -	April 6	200 r. a' p' last - - - - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$ r. d. - - -	45/8
	May 11	162 a' 166 r. d. last - - -	6 r. 4 - - - - -	40/6 a' 41/6
	December 18	130 a' 132 - - - - -	6 r. 19 - - - - -	27/10 a' 28/4
TRIESTE :				
Wheat :				
1817 - - -	December 19	9 fl p' stura - - - - -	9 fl. 1 - - - - -	69/10
1818 - - -	March 20	6 $\frac{3}{4}$ a' 7 fl. - - - - -	9 - - - - -	50/ a' 51/10
	May 12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ a' 6 - - - - -	9 - - - - -	35/ a' 47/1
	September 8	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ a' 6 - - - - -	9 . 6 - - - - -	40/4 a' 44/
	December 15	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. - - - - -	8 fl. 56 - - -	41/1
1819 - - -	April 12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ a' 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ fl. p' st. - - -	9 fl. - - - - -	34/1 a' 35/11
	June 8	4 a' 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - - - -	9 c. 3 - - - - -	30/2 a' 33/11
	September 22	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ a' 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ - - - - -	9 c. 47 - - - - -	25/7 a' 29/
	December 10	4 a' 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - - - - -	9 c. 44 - - - - -	28/1 a' 31/7
1821 - - -	February 24	5 $\frac{3}{4}$ a' 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ fl. p' st. - - -	10 fl. - - - - -	40/11 a' 46
WISMAR :				
Wheat :				
1818 - - -	December 24	190 a' 192 rx. p' last - - -	5 . 10 - - - - -	53/8 a' 54/2
1819 - - -	October 11	112 r. d. 2/3 - - - - -	5 r. 37 - - - - -	29/8

Thomas Tooke, Esq.; again called in; and Examined.

*Thomas Tooke,
Esq.*

(13 April.)

UP to the period of 1750 there was a bounty of 5*s.* per quarter upon the exportation of wheat, would you, under any circumstances, recommend the adoption of a similar measure?—I should not under the circumstances under which it then existed, unless it was connected with any taxes that operated directly upon the land to that amount; but if that were not the case, I should not approve of the principle of a bounty on exportation.

Would you ever recommend a bounty unless there was also a duty on the importation of the commodity?—Never; nor to an extent beyond that duty; nor that duty beyond the direct taxes that could be proved to operate upon the production of the commodity.

Is it your opinion, that the price of corn in this country has been raised by bringing inferior soils into cultivation within these twenty years?—I should rather conceive that cause and effect as there stated, might be reversed, and that the high prices have induced some inferior land to be taken into cultivation.

If that has been the case, would not a general lower average of price have the effect of throwing those lands out of cultivation?—If that proportion were very large, that might probably be the case; but on the other hand, the improvements in agriculture and the increase of canals and roads may have made the produce, even of those lands, come to market under circumstances less disadvantageous than they formerly did, or under less disadvantage than they might otherwise do, in competition with the productions of foreign soils at a greater distance.

Do you think the prices of corn, within the last twenty or thirty years, have been kept up by the protecting duties which have existed?—I have my doubts about their having been kept up so much by the protecting duties, as by the great expenses attending importation, and by the prevalence of bad seasons, both here, and I believe, taking the majority of years during the period alluded to, on the Continent.

Supposing a free trade in corn was to be established, would the prices on the Continent, in your opinion, rise generally, or those here fall?—I think that both effects would follow; that ours would be somewhat lower than the present range, and those on the Continent very decidedly higher.

If by inferior soils being thrown out of cultivation much less corn was produced in this country, and we required to import always from foreign countries, what would be the effect upon the markets there?—Prices there would advance no doubt in proportion to the increased demand from this country; but I confess, that my opinion is, which however I deliver with great diffidence, that notwithstanding all the apparent disadvantage of having taken some inferior soils into cultivation, such appears to be the productiveness of the soil and climate of Ireland, and such are the improvements in agriculture, as applying to the empire generally, that we still may possess the advantages which we had relatively to the agriculturists of the Continent in the first sixty-five years of last century, and produce grain in competition with them.

Were not the prices of corn more fluctuating when this was an exporting country than since we have become an importing country, with the exception of the last twenty years?—I cannot speak off-hand without reference to the documents which I have not with me at this moment; but I rather think it will appear that the fluctuation was full as great, if not greater, during the time that we were an exporting country, than since the time that we have been an importing one; I cannot, however, speak confidently without a reference to dates and prices.

Is not a steady price of corn more advantageous to the community, than alternate high or low prices?—Unquestionably so; and the advantages of a more steady price are among those which I distinctly contemplate, when I give it as my opinion, that a free trade in corn would be highly desirable for a country situated like this.

You have stated that you do not think a protecting duty on corn, would tend to raise its price?—I must limit that opinion to the supposition that we grow, on the average of seasons, enough for our own consumption; any average produce short of that, would naturally vary the effects of either a duty or a protecting scale of importation.

Supposing we did not grow our own consumption, would not a protecting duty upon the importation of corn, prevent the prices in this country falling to a level with those of the Continent?—They would so, until by the inducement held out by the higher level supposed in the question, more land had been brought into cultivation

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(13 April.)

to the point at which the average produce would meet our consumption; then, in my opinion, the protecting regulations would cease to be efficient in maintaining any decidedly higher average.

Would not the effect of that be to throw those inferior lands again out of cultivation?—That would depend upon the duration of the periods of depression; according to my view of the fluctuations that took place in the course of the last century, they can only be accounted for by the prevalence of much longer periods of particular descriptions of seasons, than are usually supposed to prevail; and in the case supposed in the question, there might be such a prevalence of abundant seasons as would operate in producing a price that would throw land out of cultivation; but every question of that sort must take into consideration an infinite variety of combinations arising from the seasons. I have only stated what, assuming any particular range of seasons, would be the natural effect.

Do you not think that a free importation at all times, under a fixed duty, would be better for the community than the existing law?—The machinery of the present Bill is, in my opinion, so very objectionable, and every system of averages likely to be so, that a permanent duty seems to be the lesser evil; but upon the supposition of our growing enough for our own consumption, that would leave according to the amount of the duty, the same range of fluctuation.

If we did not grow our own consumption, do you not think it would keep the prices steadier?—A duty would in such case.

If we imported, annually, one million of quarters of wheat at a duty, suppose of 20s. would not an abundant harvest at once operate in diminishing the importation without so great a fall of price as now takes place under the operation of the present law?—Undoubtedly; it would give the agriculturists of this country the benefit of the deficiency of the home growth in preference to the importer; and the range of fluctuation in that case would be chiefly upon the quantity imported.

Is not the price of labour, in your opinion, in this country, raised by the higher price of commodities, besides corn, which are protected by duties, and are necessary to the labourer?—Our system of duties, partly from taxation and partly from our protective regulations, does make the money price of the necessaries of life higher, and consequently does so far affect the nominal price of labour.

If the average were advanced to a hundred shillings would the ports be as frequently open to the foreign wheat as they would be according to the present law?—Not quite so often probably; but it may be doubted whether the influx would not be as great. You might raise the dam a little higher, but it would be a question of the proportion of the quantity on the other side of it, whether, when the ports opened, you would not be equally overflowed. There can, at the same time, be no doubt, that a point may be assumed at which it might operate as a total prohibition.

If the average price here were not to rise to one hundred shillings, would not such a law preclude importation, and thereby give a stricter monopoly to the British farmer?—It would; but unfortunately for any such regulations, as long as it had the effect of keeping up the price beyond what it otherwise would have been, it would induce an extended cultivation till the period at which it came to be sufficient for our own supply, and then upon the recurrence of two or three good seasons, the depression, which I have already anticipated, would occur.

In such case, if we could import grain from other countries, at less than two-thirds of the price of British corn, could British corn continue at its average value in the market?—On the supposition of foreign corn of the same average quality being importable, for a course of years, at two-thirds the price of British, it would of course be impossible to preserve British wheat above that level; but perhaps I may be permitted again to repeat my opinion, that there is no such disproportion, or any thing approaching to it, between our power of producing corn for our consumption, and the power of the Continent of supplying us, as is assumed in the question.

Is not the fact assumed in the question, a proportionate value now between corn on the Continent, and corn in England?—It is so; but I have in a former answer stated, that I consider the fact of the seasons of 1818 and 1819 having been so abundant there, while here they were together a bare average, particularly bearing in mind the effect of quantity upon price, to be quite sufficient to account for the actual difference. Perhaps the Committee would, in this part of the examination, allow me to notice the only instance that I think can be adduced, of an article of considerable importance, of raw produce, the growth of the United Kingdom, which is not subject to a protecting duty on importation, and which yet seems to be fully able to encounter the competition of the foreign grower. The article I allude to is that

that of flax; the duty upon the importation of flax is little more than a nominal one, five-pence a cwt. Now the growth of that has increased, and by all accounts is increasing in Ireland very considerably. As an importer of flax from Russia, I can speak feelingly when I say, that it cannot stand in competition with the Irish. The Dutch grower likewise is feeling the effects of that competition, in selling, as I understand he does, at a loss. The following is a short extract of a letter from Holland, which is a good deal to the point: "Dort, 5th March 1821. As a base to build a speculation upon, we can say, that our farmers cannot raise flax at the present prices; and that the blessing of an abundant crop, will be the ruin of two-thirds of them." I may perhaps be allowed to add, that as the circumstance had struck me as bearing upon the subject under discussion, I wrote to some friends in Ireland, who are considerably concerned in the article as manufacturers, and occasionally as importers, with some inquiries. The answer is: "In reply to your inquiries as to the cultivation of flax in Ireland, we beg to enclose the result of the general reports of the Linen Board, relative to the quantity of seed sown, and the flax crops for the years 1817 and 1820; which give a return also of flax seed sown from 1814; it appears that the number of hogsheads sown in 1814, was 35,373; in 1815, 52,254; in 1816, 53,540; in 1817, 32,873; in 1818, 47,607; in 1819, 44,431½; in 1820, 52,416; and that the average of the last three years exceeds by nearly three thousand hogsheads the average of the seven; whilst last year's sowing was 7,000 hogsheads also above the entire average. From every information that has reached us, the cultivation of flax has rendered the grower full as well as any other article, of which the above statement is strongly corroborative." The deficiency of the sowing in 1817, I rather think arose from the extravagant advance which took place in the spring of that year, in the price of Dutch and Riga sowing seed, in consequence of a short importation.

Is the Committee to infer from analogy, that it is your opinion that this country and Ireland can produce grain at as cheap a rate as countries can on the Continent?—I only repeat, that I do not know of any recent circumstances attending the agriculture of foreign countries which can have given them any very decided advantage over the produce of this country; and the instance that I have mentioned, is, perhaps, still more strongly in point, because, although in the mere growth of flax, the Irish may be on a level in skill with the foreign cultivators, they are inferior, I believe, from want of practice in the preparation afterwards, as it is a comparatively recent article in Ireland; they have, therefore, the disadvantage of quality in flax which they would not have in wheat.

Has not flax been for a great length of time, an important article of cultivation in Ireland?—I believe the great increase of growth dates from about 1809 or 1810.

Have the goodness to state the foundations of that opinion?—I have gone back only to the year 1814. I have not immediately at hand the documents for a more remote date; but still, I should beg leave to say, that within the period to which I have referred, there is an increase which would scarcely for so long a time have been the case, if it could not have stood the foreign competition.

Supposing a country highly taxed, with a large national debt, with higher rent of land, and whose inhabitants, the agriculturists included, from habits and usage requiring more expensive food or raiment and better lodgings, were to enter into a competition in the production of corn with a country bearing a proportion of one-sixth of taxation, a proportionate inferior amount of national debt, whose inhabitants were accustomed to commoner food, less expensive raiment and dwelling, and whose rent of land is inferior, could both afford to sell their grain at the same price?—I am inclined to think, from a reference to the period to which I alluded on a former examination for another purpose, that the circumstances supposed in the question of different mode of life and a much higher rate of taxation, and a very great debt compared with other countries, are not themselves insurmountable obstacles to the description of competition contemplated. It appears that for twenty years, from 1709 ending 1728, the average price of wheat was 2 *l.* 1 *s.* 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*; for twenty years, from 1731, ending 1750, the average price was 1 *l.* 11 *s.* 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*; and for ten years from 1741 to 1750, 1 *l.* 10 *s.* 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.* making the twenty years, ending in 1750 about 25 per cent, and the ten years ending the same period about 28 per cent below those of the twenty years ending in 1728. Notwithstanding this fall, which of itself would operate as a very great discouragement; notwithstanding an expensive war within the last ten years of the period, which increased the public debt from about forty-eight millions to seventy-nine millions or thereabouts; it does appear that the cultivation of this country was going on in progressive extension, for in the last year of that

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period, the exportation reached the enormous quantity of upwards of 900,000 quarters; and this too, during a period in which by some of the extracts which I noticed in a former examination, there was a prevalence of similar complaints of the want of a remunerating price, and assertions of the impossibility of continuing cultivation to the same extent. With regard to the effect of taxation generally, I should say, that unless in the case of any taxes bearing directly upon the object of production, they can only be looked upon as a general diminution of income; and therefore, not at all constituting one of the elements of the cost of production.

Does not the farmer along with all other classes of the community, support not only the taxes that directly affect his own trade, but his portion of those which fall generally upon the community?—Yes, he does; but so does the manufacturer, who is still able, as appears by our exports, to maintain a competition with the foreign manufacturer. No manufactory can be mentioned upon which the duties, upon bricks, upon glass, upon leather, and upon an infinite variety of articles, besides the greatly increased cost of the necessaries of the labourer, do not equally operate as they do upon the farmer.

Is it your opinion, therefore, that the perfection of our manufactories as resulting from our dexterity in machinery and the natural advantages we possess, may be carried by parity of reasoning to the productions of our agriculture?—They certainly may; and if machinery does not in the case of agriculture tell so much, yet the distance of conveyance of so bulky a production is probably a full compensation; for we have to export our manufactures, and therefore they are subject to a deduction of freight; in the case of corn, the growers here have the protection of the freight upon an infinitely more bulky commodity.

Admitting that we had a free trade in corn, is it quite certain that other countries would take off their restrictions on our manufactures; and might it not happen, that while we break down the barrier which excludes their grain, they might still continue their's shut against our trade?—I think that a more liberal system on our part, might occasion increased facilities on theirs; but whether that should be so or not, is not at all material to my view of the question; they would not sell us more than we could pay for in our manufactures, or something that was the produce of our manufactures, or something the produce of our industry; there is no reason, in my opinion, why we should eat dear corn because they would not take from us cheap manufactures.

Would it be good policy in England, to establish a free trade, although all other countries should support the restrictive system?—Undoubtedly; if that were the only thing in contemplation.

If a free trade existed, could any of the duties of customs or excise be levied in Great Britain?—I all through mean, as far as is consistent with preserving an existing revenue.

A free trade could not exist under custom or excise duties?—I mean a free trade as far as might be consistent with those.

Could you take off those duties before you pay off the national debt?—I do not propose taking them off; I am alluding to those which are simply meant as protecting duties or regulations; such, for instance, as that under consideration relative to corn.

Supposing that by a third abundant harvest of the present year 1821, the price of wheat were reduced to 5s. per bushel, as stated in your evidence to be the price to which it would, probably, in such event fall; and supposing much of our land were to go out of cultivation, is it your opinion that our agricultural population would find employment in any other branch of industry?—I believe that if it were an abundant harvest in 1821, it would not be a third, it would be only a second abundant harvest; I have stated my opinion that the harvest of 1819 was a bare average one; with regard to the employment that could be found to labourers thrown out, by any diminished cultivation of the land, it is a question upon which I can give no decided answer; it applies to all questions of great change of production or demand; there is no doubt that any great change of demand for labour in any occupation, however beneficially the capital thus disengaged, might be employed in others, would be a disadvantage.

Is it consistent with your knowledge, that there is any branch of our manufactures at present under-stocked with labour?—I am not aware that there is; but perhaps the Committee will allow me to say a word further, with regard to the probability of the price of wheat falling to 5s. a bushel, and the probability of any considerable portion of land being thrown out of cultivation. According to some of my answers recently given, I am inclined to think that we may maintain the competition with foreigners consistently with preserving the present extent of land under cultivation; and in that case the throwing of labourers out of employment would not take place.

Do

Do you think under those circumstances, that the wages of labour would remain as good as they are now for the labourer?—So much must depend upon the price of other articles, that it would be difficult to give a general answer to that question.

Might not we have a diminished supply of corn without throwing land out of cultivation, merely by withdrawing capital from land already in cultivation?—Yes; by less high cultivation continuing the same surface.

Would not that reduce the number of labourers in agriculture?—My general impression is, that the reduction might not be great; but I am not confident on that point.

Supposing less high farming, would not that reduce the number of labourers?—Yes, probably it might.

Supposing the present situation of the country to be permanent, that is to say, that enough of corn is produced in this kingdom to supply the consumption of its inhabitants, would there be any prejudice to the public interest in giving confidence to the farmer to give him the monopoly of the home market; what would be your opinion of the consequences, if the legislature were to enact a law whereby the ports should always be open for the importation of foreign wheat, upon the payment of a duty of 40s. per quarter, and other grains in proportion?—I have no hesitation in saying, that I think it would be highly prejudicial to the public interest without any corresponding benefit to the agricultural interest. Suppose we grew sufficient for our own consumption on the average, there could rarely be an approach of the price to such a rate as would admit of an importation; but in the event of two or three bad harvests succeeded by two or three good ones, the range of fluctuation would be enormous. And supposing two successively bad seasons, such as would have raised the price of corn under the present bill to 80s. it is perfectly improbable, that without the most serious danger to all the interests of the state, a duty of 40s. the effect of which I think would be, in the first instance, to make the corn dearer by 40s. or speaking in round numbers, the quarter loaf by sixpence, could be enforced for a single week.

What would be your opinion of imposing a duty of 10s. a quarter on all wheat imported after the general average of the market shall have reached 80s.?—It would approach in principle to what I contemplated in my last answer; it would differ probably in degree, but still it would increase the range of fluctuation, compared with the present system, and equally endanger the distressing consequences of two or three abundant seasons, for which there seems to be no remedy under any bill discouraging importation, but a corresponding bounty upon exportation.

Is there any other rate of duty which you are prepared to recommend in preference to the law as it now stands?—If the degree in which the excess of the poor laws, or any direct taxes upon land, affect the produce of it, could be estimated by a computation of so much per quarter, probably a duty to that amount might be preferable to the present system; but it should be connected with a bounty upon exportation to a similar amount; I am not, however, prepared to give any opinion as to the amount of duty which would be preferable to the present restriction, without reference to the condition which is mentioned in the first part of this answer.

Would not the repeal of all duties and prohibitions on articles of foreign manufacture, be of greater advantage to those who depend for their income on the price of the produce of land, than to manufacturers?—I am not prepared to enter into the details of prices and value, that would be involved in any correct answer to that question; it is to be observed at the same time, that many of the protecting duties and prohibitions upon foreign manufactured goods, are or have become nominal, as the prices of many articles of home manufacture, that are subject to protective duties, are as cheap as they would be without them.

You were understood to say on a former day, that all taxes affecting land immediately, ought to be taken into consideration in imposing a duty of any kind?—Yes.

You admit that the poor's rates is one of those taxes?—It does appear that the poor's rates bear with greater weight upon landed than upon other property.

Do not you consider all the local taxes that affect land, to be considered as in that class of taxes that are to be taken into consideration in the arrangement of such a duty?—I am not sufficiently aware of the nature of the local taxes referred to.

The parochial taxes?—From the general view which I have of them, I should say, that other classes are in a very great degree, if not in an equal degree, subject to them.

The highway rates and church rates?—If they are exclusive, and are not compensated by direct taxes of other kinds on individuals in other occupations, they might be so.

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Is it not necessary in the arrangement of a duty, that the corn of this country should be equal to compete in the market with foreign corn; that is, that whenever it is brought necessarily into this country, our own farmers should be able to sell upon the same terms?—I am not without a strong impression, as already stated, that we are in that condition.

What effect does taxation, speaking generally of it, produce upon the price of corn?—A former answer will have intimated my opinion, that taxes, in as far as they are general, operate rather as a diminution of income, than as a condition of prices.

However highly a country may be taxed, if the taxes be general and equal, will they have any effect in preventing us from competing with other countries?—They cannot have that effect in my opinion. For instance, I cannot easily conceive, how an income tax of ten per cent, levied, if such a thing be practicable, with perfect equality, could affect prices; it would not affect the proportions of production and consumption; there would be no difference in the supply, nor do I see how there could be any difference in the demand. I have confined myself, in this answer, to the effects of taxation on prices, as connected with foreign competition. The effects of taxation on the accumulation of capital, or national wealth, afford a distinct ground of consideration.

How then are taxes to be supported, unless it be by a general rise in the prices of articles produced?—I do not think that a general rise in price, or high money prices, are essential to the revenue. At a level of low prices, independent of any of the great changes incidental from sudden variations in the value of money, I conceive that the consumption, which is the only basis of the revenue, might go on to the usual extent, excepting that it would be by different individuals, that is, the proportions by different individuals would be varied.

In carrying on foreign trade, do we not give one commodity for another; and if the prices of both be raised equally by taxation, is their relative value in the least affected?—I should conceive not.

Therefore the trade would proceed as before?—Yes.

This is always supposing taxation equally placed?—Exactly so; any inequalities will operate prejudicially; but it is difficult to assign any particular operation to such inequalities.

As the taxes are to be paid in money, does it not make a difference to those who have the tax to pay, whether the commodity from which that money is derived, will sell high or sell low?—It doubtless does make a difference to those who have the tax to pay; it will lessen the incomes of some individuals as measured in money; but it will increase the incomes of others as measured in commodities.

Then is the Committee to infer, that it is your opinion, that the farmer who receives 58 s. for wheat at present, is as well able to bear the burden of taxation, as he was when wheat was at 80 s.?—Certainly not; but the person who buys bread, in the proportion of wheat at 58 s. is able to consume and pay for so much more; I do not mean to say, that such changes are not always attended with great evil, and I lament them as much as any one.

The question referred to a particular case; whether it is your opinion, that in the event supposed, a high or low price makes no difference in the burden of taxation to the farmer?—To the farmer, it certainly does.

Does the circumstance of the labourers of a country, using better food and clothing, at all conduce to raise the price of the corn, which that country produces, above the price of corn grown in other countries, where, from the labourers being satisfied with worse food and clothing, labour is at a cheaper money price?—The circumstance of a people being accustomed to more expensive modes of living, might require or occasion a higher price of corn; but perhaps I may be permitted to observe, that as far as relates to production in Ireland, the mode of living of the labouring classes there, seems to be on a lower level, than in this country; and still the habits of life in this country seem to me to bear the same proportion to those abroad, as they did in the period to which I have referred, when we were able to maintain a competition with the foreign grower.

The Committee is desirous of knowing whether it is your opinion, that the price of corn depends at all upon the price of labour?—I am not quite prepared to answer that question in all its bearings; I think there are some circumstances under which it may.

Does a high rent produce any effect on the price of corn, or is a high rent the effect of a high price of corn?—I conceive the high rent is the effect of a high price of corn.

By

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By a free importation trade, do you not mean, that commodities which come into competition with ours from different foreign countries, should be subject only to the peculiar duties to which the same commodities are subject at home?—Exactly.

If the landlord were to give up the whole of his rent to the farmer, do you think corn would be more plentiful or cheaper?—No, I do not imagine that the corn would be either more plentiful or cheaper; I think if corn is more plentiful and cheaper, it may not leave so much rent to the landlord.

Do you think the comforts of the labourers generally depend upon the low price of the commodities which they use, supposing that the price of labour is regulated by the price of those commodities?—It would depend very much upon the state of demand for labour.

But with a demand for labour, it is of little consequence to the labourer, whether the prices of commodities are high or low?—That must be taken with limitation; certainly there may be circumstances where the demand so much outweighs the advance in price, that he can still command a greater proportion of articles, although at a high price.

If he can command the same quantities of commodities, whether at a high or a low price, it is to him the same?—Certainly.

Admitting that from our superior knowledge, our capital and our machinery, we can produce articles of manufacture of better quality, and at a cheaper rate than other countries, do you, or do you not think, that it is a benefit to the manufacturers themselves, to have food at a high rather than a low price, inasmuch as it admits of the home consumer paying more and purchasing a larger quantity?—I believe on a former examination, an answer of mine will apply to this question; I cannot conceive how the manufacturers can be gainers by an increased price, given only in consequence of the high price of corn; the manufacturer would have to pay at least as much for himself and for his labourers in the advanced price of corn, as the increased price that he obtained for his manufactures.

Do not high prices of agricultural produce enable the whole agricultural population to become larger consumers, not only of articles of home manufacture, but of foreign produce?—Doubtless in as far as their incomes are increased.

Then, as far as they are the customers of the manufacturers, would not their prosperity arising from the high prices of their produce, enable them materially to contribute to the prosperity of the manufacturers themselves?—They may contribute some part of the increased prices in increased demand, for the benefit of those that experience that increased demand; but that cannot apply to the community generally, who must suffer a loss of income or profit in proportion to the higher price which they may have to pay for their food, in consequence of restrictions on the trade in corn.

In a former part of your evidence, you referred to a passage from Mr. Locke, in which it is said, "It is in vain, in a country whose great fund is land, to hope to lay the public charge of the land on any thing else; there it will terminate. The merchant, do what you can, will not bear it; and, therefore, the landholder must: if foreign trade will pay but one-eighth, land must pay the remaining seven-eighths." Do you think that calculation is well founded?—No, I do not; and I did not refer to that passage for the purpose of the extract which is in it from Mr. Locke; but for the purpose of pointing out that there was a complaint of a decline of trade, ascribed by the writers to restrictions on foreign importation; notwithstanding that, at that time our cultivation was increasing, as indicated by the unprecedentedly large export of that year.

Do you suppose the calculation that you afterwards alluded to, to be correct, that every fifty farmers of 200 *l.* stock in business, do necessarily support and maintain 1,100 tradesmen and artificers?—That is another extract which I submitted to the Committee, for the purpose of pointing out how similar the complaints and the arguments in a former period of cheapness and falling prices were to those which are now brought forward.

If that were true, would it not follow, that the losses of those 1,100 tradesmen, must be in proportion to the losses of the fifty farmers, till they would procure other customers for their goods?—I believe that no considerable losses of any one class can occur, without entailing heavy losses upon others; and it was one of the great and lamentable evils of every change, whether arising from political regulations or from the inevitable change of the seasons.

If then the restrictions upon the corn trade are necessary for the security of the farmer from the charges to which he is subjected by taxation, are they not also necessary for the security of our manufactures?—I do not conceive that they are

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necessary, upon the grounds which I have, in various answers, stated, for the protection of our farmers; and so far from thinking that the restrictions on the corn trade are necessary for the security of our manufacturers, I have distinctly stated my opinion, that such restrictions cannot be otherwise than prejudicial to them.

As no one would cultivate without some prospect of remuneration, can you in the present existing state of taxation, and in the present state of the world, imagine any increase of advantage from the extension of foreign trade, so as to repay us for the decay of our trade at home?—I have no idea that, by the abandonment of such restrictions as are not necessary for the revenue, our internal trade would decay; so far from it, I conceive that it would flourish much more

Lunæ, 16^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Frederick Lane,

Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
Frederick Lane,

(16 April.)

YOU are a solicitor in Lynn?—I am.

Have you any knowledge respecting a fraud that was practised in the corn market at Lynn in July last?—I have.

Will you have the goodness to state to the Committee such circumstances as came under your knowledge respecting it?—Perhaps I should inform the Committee, in the first instance, although the magistrates convicted the parties, yet, on consulting counsel, we were obliged to abandon the conviction; perhaps, therefore, I should not mention the names of the merchants who were convicted. On the 23d of July last an anonymous letter was sent to one of the magistrates, stating that there were some frauds attempted in the corn returns; in consequence of that, two of the magistrates, Thomas Philip Bagge and John Prescott Blencowe, Esqrs. sent for the corn inspector and examined the returns; and finding some suspicious circumstances attached to one of the returns, they summoned the party, whose return was in the following words: "Return of corn bought by A. B. and C., from Saturday, July 15th, to Saturday, July the 22d, 1820; sixty-eight quarters of wheat, at 69s. 5d. 236l. 0s. 4d.; ten ditto of barley, at 35s. 17l. 10s.; two hundred and sixty-two ditto of oats, at 32s. 4d. 423l. 11s. 4d." The magistrates then sent for the chief officer in the meter's office, and ascertained that scarcely any oats had been brought up to Lynn by water; and from other inquiry they ascertained, that very few oats had been delivered by land. The parties who were summoned, admitted that they had made a contract with a merchant at Newcastle for 250 quarters of oats, part of the 262 quarters mentioned in the return; but that they were not actually shipped at the date of the return. In consequence of that, they amended the return by striking out the 262 quarters of oats at 32s. 4d. and inserting the quantity of eleven quarters and six bushels at 18s. being the whole of the quantity that they had received within that week. The magistrates, after some consultation, determined that the parties should be convicted in 10l. penalty for making a false return. They then sent for two other merchants in partnership, who had made a return in the following words: "Account of corn bought from the 18th July to the 22d, by D. and E., 100 quarters of wheat, at 325l.; 121 quarters of oats, 179l. 8s." These parties admitted, that they had actually received no corn within the week mentioned in their return; but that one of them had agreed to buy of his father-in-law, 50 quarters of oats lying in his father-in-law's granaries, at 32s. a quarter; but he had not received them, and they had not even been measured; and he further stated, that a large quantity of oats belonging to Mr. Richard Orton having been lodged in granaries occupied by the father-in-law of another of the partners, for sale when they could procure a given price; they had, in the week mentioned in the return in question, met with an opportunity of disposing of about 70 quarters of those oats at Mr. Orton's limits, and therefore thought it right to insert that quantity, as well as the oats agreed to be bought of the father-in-law of the other partner; but that, in point of fact, they had not actually paid for, or received any corn whatever, within the period mentioned in the return. The magistrates convicted these parties in the penalty of 5l. only.

You

You are clerk to the magistrates acting in this district?—I am. I should mention, perhaps, that the magistrates were extremely averse to withdrawing the conviction, as they more than once declared their opinion, that, if it had to come over again, they must have pursued the same course.

Mr.
Frederick Lane,

(16 April.)

What was the market price of oats at that time?—I really know so little about agriculture, that I cannot state; but one ground that operated on the magistrates mind was, that the best oats could have been purchased at a much less price at Lynn, than they had agreed to give to this gentleman at Newcastle.

And that brought their attention to the subject?—Yes.

Thomas Tooke, Esquire; again Called in; and Examined.

WHAT effect, do you think, has been produced on the price of corn by the act of 1819, providing for a return to cash payments?—I very much doubt my being able to give so distinct an opinion as I could wish, upon a point involving so many difficult considerations; the standard itself, of money, is subject to be affected by many circumstances which do not admit of being ascertained, as well as the commodity which is measured by the money; I have no doubt, however, that a considerable influence has been produced on the price of corn by the alteration in the value of money, since 1819.

Thomas Tooke,
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(16 April.)

Have you formed any opinion as to the degree in which the alteration in the value of money has operated on the price of corn and other commodities, since 1819?—In a general way, I should suppose that it may have been to the extent of about 10 per cent.

What effect, do you think, would have been produced on the price of corn, if, in 1819, instead of restoring the Mint standard of 3 *l.* 17 *s.* 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* Parliament had resolved to fix the standard at 4 *l.* 1 *s.* the market price of gold at that time?—All other things being the same, the difference would be about four per cent.

Do you mean to say, that if the standard had been fixed at 4 *l.* 1 *s.* the effect then upon the price of corn would have been four per cent?—Yes, unless the question refers to the preparation made by the Bank, which preparation I estimate as something more.

At what difference, then, do you estimate the effect produced on the price of corn, in consequence of the standard being 3 *l.* 17 *s.* 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to the effect that would have been produced, if the standard had been fixed at 4 *l.* 1 *s.*?—I can conceive no other difference than that between the two sums mentioned, which is about four per cent.

As far as the currency is concerned in influencing the price of corn, what effect would have been produced, if no measure had been taken, in 1819, for the restoration of cash payments, and provided the Bank had so governed the issue of their notes as to keep them at the same relative value to gold, as that at which they stood in 1819, and at which they had been, with a very slight variation, for the four preceding years?—Assuming the two suppositions in the question, I should think, that the difference may be more considerable than the mere difference between the standard price of 77 *s.* 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* and the price of the average of the four preceding years inasmuch as a greater or less difference would arise, according as the Bank did or did not prepare for the resumption of cash payments. Here, perhaps, the Committee will give me leave to observe, that I am not clear that if Parliament had not interfered in 1819, the state of things, as far as the currency is concerned, would not by this time have been nearly the same as it now is. Supposing that the legislature had not then interfered, the presumption is, that the restriction would have been renewed upon the usual promise on the part of Government and of the Bank to resume cash payments at some assigned period. I believe that both the Government and the Bank, were sincere in their intention of restoring the currency at some future period; although differing as I did from the principles by which the Bank Directors professed to regulate their issues, and upon which they justified their departure from the standard, and apprehending therefore, a continued capricious fluctuation of the currency if it were suffered to remain on so indefinite a footing, I did approve, and do approve of the measures which were then taken to prevent any future aberration. Still giving credit to Government and the Bank for the sincerity of their intentions, then as according to the peculiar tenets of the Directors, the concurrence of a favourable harvest, of a favourable balance of foreign payments, and of a low rate of interest of money, were the circumstances by which they professed to regulate the steps towards a final resumption of cash payments; and as these circumstances, of which the principal is a good harvest, have since occurred, I am strongly persuaded, that without any compulsory measure, there would equally have been a great rise

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rise in our continental exchanges, an influx of gold and silver, a fall of the former to the Mint standard, and of the latter below it, and the decline in the general prices of commodities which we are now witnessing: It is a state of things very similar to what occurred till the autumn of 1816, and apparently by the operation of the same causes.

Suppose the Bank had not been under the necessity of making any preparation for cash payments, and had maintained the amount of the circulation at nearly the level of 1819 and the four preceding years, by regulating their issues by the average price of gold during those years, would any effect whatever have been produced on the price of corn from an alteration in the value of currency?—I should think not.

How much has the value of gold been raised, in consequence of the purchases made by the Bank to prepare for cash payments?—I should conceive, the extent of that effect to be the alteration in the relative value of gold to silver, assuming that without such preparation, they would be at or about the proportions of 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* and 5*s.* 2*d.*; the present difference, I should presume, may afford some approximation to an estimate of what the difference arising from the accumulation of the requisite quantity of gold may be.

Measuring it in that standard, how much has gold risen since 1819?—About six per cent.

How do you ascertain that the value of gold has risen six per cent measured in silver since 1819?—I am not clear that it amounts to a proof that gold has risen, as the difference might equally arise from a fall in the value of silver.

The question refers to the relative value of gold to silver; how much has gold risen, estimated in silver since 1819?—About six per cent, I think.

The Committee wish to have the ground of that opinion stated?—I have already said, that the best criterion I assume, to be the difference of the market prices of gold and silver compared with what they then were.

State their market prices in 1819 and their market prices now?—The price of gold in 1819, previous to the passing of that Act was about 4*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; the price of silver was then, I believe, 5*s.* 6*d.*; the price of the former is 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* and of the latter, 4*s.* 11*d.*

You have stated, what in your opinion is the increase in the value of gold as compared to silver since 1819; the Committee wish you to state, what in your opinion is the increase in the value of Bank notes, as compared with gold since that time?—The Bank notes being now exactly equal to gold at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* the increased value of the Bank note as compared with gold, is as the difference between 4*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* and 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* or somewhat above four per cent.

Then the Committee understand you to say, that the value of Bank notes, as compared with gold, has increased 4 per cent; and the value of gold, as compared with silver, which you think has not undergone much variation, 6 per cent, making the whole alteration in the value of the currency since 1819, 10 per cent?—About 10 per cent. This estimate is without reference to any variation which may possibly have taken place in the value of silver, which I assumed not to have varied only for the purpose of stating one ground of comparison. But there is no doubt that the value of silver may have varied; at the same time, whether it has so varied or not, I have no means of forming an accurate estimate.

Do you believe that silver has risen in value, as compared with commodities, since 1819?—I am not aware of any sufficient grounds for inferring that it has.

If then you were asked, in what degree, in your opinion, Bank notes had varied, as compared with commodities, since 1819, from an alteration in the value of Bank notes, would you say that it was about 10 per cent?—I should say that it was about 10 per cent.

Is not that opinion, then, grounded on the supposition and the belief, that silver has not varied in value?—I assume that, having no sufficient ground for any different inference.

Does not war, and the employment of large armies, occasion an use of large quantities of gold and silver, either in the form of coin or bullion; and will they not revert to the general circulation, on the return of peace?—It is probable that large masses of bullion were so absorbed, and that they may since have been returned into circulation.

Have you any means of forming an estimate of what amount of gold and silver might be so employed?—I have no means of forming such estimate.

Has the quantity of gold and silver required since the peace, for the purpose of upholding the credit of the paper circulation of the different banks in Europe, been

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been greater or less than the quantity set free and thrown into general circulation, in consequence of the cessation of the demand for the purposes of war?—I am not clear that there are any data upon which a strict comparison can be instituted. There was one period during the present peace, in which considerable sums in specie were collected, apparently for the purpose of restoring the value of the currency of some of the continental states of Europe. The most considerable sum that was collected within a short period for that purpose, was by Russia, in 1817 and 1818. The amount of specie that is supposed to have gone into Russia in those two years, was probably not less than about ten millions sterling; but from the subsequent depression of the exchange of Russia upon other countries, its present low rate and declining tendency, there is every reason to believe, that in no long interval a very small part of that large sum will have been retained in Russia; the greater part must consequently either have come, or be in the course of coming, to add to the stock of bullion in the rest of the commercial world.

When banks in foreign countries require bullion to uphold their credit, is it gold or silver bullion that they chiefly use for such purpose?—It is chiefly, I believe, silver.

In the operation of large armies is gold or silver bullion chiefly used?—I have no means of judging of the proportion of the two; but I should think that gold from being so much more portable, would be preferred, whenever obtainable, for such purposes, even at some little difference of expense.

Do you think that gold will rise or fall in value from this time for the next two years?—I am not aware of any sufficient ground for forming a clear opinion upon that point; and in the absence of any such ground, my inference would be against any material difference in the value.

Do you think that the demand for gold on the part of the Bank for the purposes of cash payments, is very nearly satisfied?—I should imagine that it must be so, judging by the proposed partial anticipation of payments in coin.

As, in your opinion, the late alteration in the currency has not had an effect on the price of corn beyond that of lowering it 10 per cent, what are the other causes that have affected the extreme depression at which it is at this moment?—I believe that I said that I had no criterion by which I could infer a greater difference from the mere alteration produced by the Act of 1819, than about 10 per cent; but assuming only this difference as arising from the preparations for cash payments, I think that there are other causes which may, in concurrence with the one now mentioned, account for the great depression. One which I have noticed in former examinations, and in my opinion the principal one, is the great abundance, or supposed abundance, of the harvest of 1820. At the same time there may have been some diminution in the consumption of corn in consequence partly, perhaps, of the extremely low price of potatoes, and partly of the diminished money wages of numerous classes of manufacturing and other labourers.

As you say that you have watched the period of 1816 with particular accuracy, is that under the impression that there is a great general similarity between that period and the present?—In very many respects, as affecting particularly the price of corn.

As there was then, in the year 1818, a material improvement both in the price of corn and also in the general increase of the revenue, to what cause do you attribute that improved condition?—In a very great degree to the bad harvests of 1816 and 1817. The effects of a deficient supply of corn upon price, even independent of any variation in the value of the currency from other causes, has already been noticed, and the effects of those bad harvests would have been of themselves sufficient to create a very considerable rise of price; but the tendency to that elevation was increased and accelerated by the large addition which took place in the early part of 1817, and continued through a great part of 1818 to the circulating medium. It is to be observed too, that great apprehensions were entertained for the produce of the harvest of 1818 in point of quantity, and a speculation upon probable deficiency operated to a considerable extent through the greater part of that year; and I have further to remark, that upon the footing of our paper currency, as it existed previously to the act of 1819, a deficiency or excess of the harvest, operated with increased power in extending or contracting that part of the paper circulation which consists of country notes.

Is not the usual effect of a bad harvest, to diminish the revenue?—I have not attended so particularly to the connection between the state of the harvest and of the revenue, as to give a general answer to that question with confidence; but with regard to the particular period referred to, it appears to me, that the opening of

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our ports for the importation of corn, as a consequence of the bad harvests of 1816 and 1817, will go a good way towards accounting for the improvement of the revenue in 1818.

In a former part of your evidence you stated, that improvements in agriculture, are as injurious, in their immediate effects, to the agricultural interest, as the repeal of a law which restricts the importation of corn, always under the supposition, that the effect of that law is, to keep the level of prices higher here than in other countries; and in a subsequent part of your evidence you stated, you conceived that agricultural improvements have been such, as occasionally to prevent a much greater rise in price, in consequence of unfavourable seasons, than otherwise would have taken place; does it not therefore follow, that even in case of a recurrence of unfavourable seasons, the price of corn must be materially lower, than if those improvements in agriculture had not taken place?—Yes, I imagine that it might.

Are you aware, that in the course of your general evidence, you have alluded to a recurrence of unfavourable seasons, as frequently taking place in the experience of the last thirty years?—Yes.

[David Ricardo, Esq. a member of the Committee, delivered in papers in the Dutch language, of which the following are translations:]

TRANSLATED FROM THE DUTCH:

	1780:			1781:		
	Place.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Place.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	126 a' 146	- - -	- - -	128 a' 148	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	64 a' 78	- - -	- - -	110 a' 120	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	46 a' 56	- - -	- - -	48 a' 55	—	—
White feed Oats - -	30 a' 44	- - -	- - -	36 a' 46	—	—
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	118 a' 136	- - -	- - -	132 a' 152	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	62 a' 72	- - -	- - -	100 a' 110	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	36 a' 44	- - -	- - -	44 a' 50	—	—
White feed Oats - -	25 a' 34	- - -	- - -	34 a' 42	—	—
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	118 a' 138	- - -	- - -	134 a' 160	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	82 a' 94	- - -	- - -	108 a' 118	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	40 a' 48	- - -	- - -	46 a' 54	—	—
White feed Oats - -	30 a' 36	- - -	- - -	36 a' 45	—	—
	1782:			1783:		
	Place.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Place.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	138 a' 162	- - -	- - -	158 a' 186	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	118 a' 128	- - -	- - -	108 a' 110	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	54 a' 62	- - -	- - -	94 a' 105	—	—
White feed Oats - -	44 a' 52	- - -	- - -	74 a' 86	—	—
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	136 a' 160	- - -	- - -	160 a' 193	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	110 a' 118	- - -	- - -	102 a' 110	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	54 a' 64	- - -	- - -	78 a' 94	—	—
White feed Oats - -	40 a' 50	- - -	- - -	58 a' 74	—	—
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	152 a' 178	- - -	- - -	146 a' 175	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	112 a' 124	- - -	- - -	98 a' 108	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	66 a' 75	- - -	- - -	80 a' 94	—	—
White feed Oats - -	54 a' 62	- - -	- - -	64 a' 75	—	—

Nº 1.—Translation from the Dutch—continued.

	1784:			1785:		
	Place.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Place.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	140 a' 170	- - -	- - -	170 a' 185	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	94 a' 104	- - -	- - -	98 a' 114	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	86 a' 100	- - -	- - -	76 a' 88	—	—
White feed Oats - -	64 a' 80	- - -	- - -	60 a' 70	—	—
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	156 a' 178	- - -	- - -	170 a' 184	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	98 a' 112	- - -	- - -	92 a' 104	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	74 a' 88	- - -	- - -	50 a' 66	—	—
White feed Oats - -	58 a' 72	- - -	- - -	40 a' 50	—	—
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	160 a' 176	- - -	- - -	160 a' 178	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	90 a' 103	- - -	- - -	82 a' 104	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	68 a' 78	- - -	- - -	72 a' 76	—	—
White feed Oats - -	52 a' 66	- - -	- - -	50 a' 62	—	—

	(1786 Nil.)			1787:			1788:			
	Price.	Course of Exchange.		Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.			Price.	Course of Exchange.		Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:										
Mixed and White G. G.	150 a' 170	-	-	-	-	-	150 a' 170	—	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	106 a' 120	-	-	-	-	-	118 a' 136	—	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	68 a' 82	-	-	-	-	-	60 a' 70	—	—	—
White feed Oats - -	55 a' 65	-	-	-	-	-	45 a' 56	—	—	—
MAY:										
Mixed and White G. G.	150 a' 170	-	-	-	-	-	145 a' 170	—	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	108 a' 118	-	-	-	-	-	112 a' 132	—	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	60 a' 74	-	-	-	-	-	58 a' 70	—	—	—
White feed Oats - -	48 a' 56	-	-	-	-	-	40 a' 52	—	—	—
SEPTEMBER:										
Mixed and White G. G.	150 a' 170	-	-	-	-	-	145 a' 175	—	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	112 a' 122	-	-	-	-	-	100 a' 122	—	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	68 a' 78	-	-	-	-	-	55 a' 70	—	—	—
White feed Oats - -	58 a' 68	-	-	-	-	-	40 a' 50	—	—	—

	1789:			1790:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	156 a' 180	- - -	- - -	280 a' 315	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	106 a' 124	- - -	- - -	158 a' 175	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	60 a' 70	- - -	- - -	58 a' 70	—	—
White feed Oats - -	54 a' 60	- - -	- - -	52 a' 58	—	—
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	175 a' 200	- - -	- - -	240 a' 280	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	112 a' 130	- - -	- - -	130 a' 148	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	56 a' 66	- - -	- - -	68 a' 78	—	—
White feed Oats - -	45 a' 56	- - -	- - -	58 a' 68	—	—
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	280 a' 305	- - -	- - -	160 a' 210	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	124 a' 150	- - -	- - -	80 a' 115	—	—
Brew Oats - - - -	54 a' 60	- - -	- - -	72 a' 84	—	—
White feed Oats - -	48 a' 54	- - -	- - -	60 a' 72	—	—

N^o 1.—Translation from the Dutch—continued.

		1791:			1792:		
		Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:			qrs.			qrs.	
Mixed and White	G. G.	165 a' 200	39/. & 10½ p' last.	37/7 a' 45/7	155 a' 175	37/. & 10½ p' last.	37/3 a' 42/.
Konigsberg Rye	- -	96 a' 115	- - -	21/10 a' 26/2	90 a' 106	- - -	21/7 a' 25/5
Brew Oats	- -	60 a' 75	- - -	13/8 a' 17/1	68 a' 80	- - -	16/4 a' 19/2
White feed Oats	- -	48 a' 58	- - -	10/11 a' 13/3	50 a' 60	- - -	12/. a' 14/5
MAY:							
Mixed and White	G. G.	160 a' 190	- - -	36/6 a' 43/4	150 a' 170	36/. & 10½ p' last.	37/. a' 42/.
Konigsberg Rye	- -	85 a' 104	- - -	19/4 a' 23/8	98 a' 114	- - -	24/2 a' 28/2
Brew Oats	- -	76 a' 90	- - -	17/4 a' 20/6	65 a' 78	- - -	16/. a' 19/3
White feed Oats	- -	55 a' 65	- - -	12/6 a' 14/10	55 a' 65	- - -	13/7 a' 16/.
SEPTEMBER:							
Mixed and White	G. G.	150 a' 175	38½ & 10½ p' last.	34/8 a' 40/4	140 a' 156	37/. & 10½ p' last.	33/8 a' 37/6
Konigsberg Rye	- -	90 a' 96	- - -	20/10 a' 22/2	80 a' 102	- - -	19/3 a' 24/6
Brew Oats	- -	66 a' 82	- - -	15/3 a' 18/11	65 a' 74	- - -	15/7 a' 17/9
White feed Oats	- -	54 a' 64	- - -	12/6 a' 14/9	50 a' 60	- - -	12/. a' 14/5

		1793:			1794:		
		Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:			qrs.				
Mixed and White	G. G.	170 a' 185	38/. & 10½ p' last.	39/9 a' 43/3	176 a' 190	39/. & 10½ p' last.	40/1 a' 43/4
Konigsberg Rye	- -	122 a' 132	- - -	28/6 a' 30/10	130 a' 146	- - -	29/8 a' 33/3
Brew Oats	- -	75 a' 84	- - -	17/6 a' 19/7	95 a' 106	- - -	21/8 a' 24/2
White feed Oats	- -	70 a' 76	- - -	16/4 a' 17/9	88 a' —	- - -	20/1
MAY:							
Mixed and White	G. G.	168 a' 180	- - -	39/3 a' 42/1	180 a' 195	- - -	42/2 a' 44/5
Konigsberg Rye	- -	118 a' 128	- - -	27/7 a' 29/11	94 a' 106	- - -	21/5 a' 24/.
Brew Oats	- -	78 a' 85	- - -	18/7 a' 19/10	120 a' 142	- - -	27/4 a' 32/4
White feed Oats	- -	72 a' 78	- - -	16/10 a' 18/7	76 a' 82	- - -	17/4 a' 18/9
SEPTEMBER:							
Mixed and White	G. G.	180 a' 190	- - -	42/1 a' 44/5	185 a' 200	- - -	41/7 a' 45/.
Konigsberg Oats	- -	118 a' 130	- - -	27/7 a' 30/5	126 a' 146	- - -	28/4 a' 32/10
Brew Oats	- -	86 a' 98	- - -	20/1 a' 22/11	92 a' 100	- - -	20/9 a' 22/6
White feed Oats	- -	75 a' 80	- - -	17/6 a' 18/9	84 a' 88	- - -	18/11 a' 19/10

		1795:			1796:		
		Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:			qrs. p' last.				
Mixed and White	G. G.	215 a' 236	44/. & 22/. dis. 10½	55/5 a' 61/1	380 a' 420	—	—
Konigsberg Rye	- -	150 a' 175	- - -	38/10 a' 45/4	nothing quoted	—	—
Brew Oats	- -	112 a' 118	- - -	29/. a' 30/7	90 a' 100	—	—
White feed Oats	- -	105 a' 110	- - -	27/2 a' 28/6	70 a' 75	—	—
MAY:							
Mixed and White	G. G.	320 a' 340	- - -	- - -	270 a' 310	—	—
Konigsberg Rye	- -	215 a' 235	- - -	- - -	n. q.	—	—
Brew Oats	- -	105 a' 115	- - -	- - -	64 a' 74	—	—
White feed Oats	- -	95 a' 102	- - -	- - -	50 a' 55	—	—
SEPTEMBER:							
Mixed and White	G. G.	375 a' 400	- - -	- - -	220 a' 270	—	—
Konigsberg Rye	- -	300 a' 320	- - -	- - -	100 a' 135	—	—
Brew Oats	- -	100 a' 108	- - -	- - -	60 a' 70	—	—
White feed Oats	- -	86 a' 95	- - -	- - -	35 a' 42	—	—

N^o 1.—Translation from the Dutch—continued.

	1797:			1798:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	240 a' 270	- - -	- - -	180 a' 210	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	110 a' 140	- - -	- - -	90 a' 116	—	—
Brew Oats - - -	65 a' 75	- - -	- - -	54 a' 66	—	—
White feed Oats - -	40 a' 50	- - -	- - -	35 a' 45	—	—
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	185 a' 210	- - -	- - -	180 a' 210	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	54 a' 64	- - -	- - -	90 a' 114	—	—
Brew Oats - - -	95 a' 110	- - -	- - -	54 a' 66	—	—
White feed Oats - -	35 a' 40	- - -	- - -	36 a' 45	—	—
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	170 a' 190	- - -	- - -	190 a' 220	—	—
Konigsberg Rye - -	90 a' 120	- - -	- - -	110 a' 125	—	—
Brew Oats - - -	50 a' 60	- - -	- - -	70 a' 86	—	—
White feed Oats - -	33 a' 40	- - -	- - -	58 a' 62	—	—

	1799:			1800:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	190 a' 210	- - -	- - -	290 a' 330	10½ & 10½ p' last.	73/8 a' 83/10
Konigsberg Rye - -	116 a' 136	- - -	- - -	220 a' 245	- - -	55/10 a' 62/3
Brew Oats - - -	90 a' 100	- - -	- - -	100 a' 120	- - -	25/5 a' 55/10
White feed Oats - -	65 a' 75	- - -	- - -	75 a' 90	- - -	19/ a' 22/10
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	220 a' 250	- - -	- - -	300 a' 340	- - -	76/2 a' 86/4
Konigsberg Rye - -	155 a' 176	- - -	- - -	200 a' 236	- - -	50/9 a' 59/11
Brew Oats - - -	nothing quoted	- - -	- - -	80 a' 100	- - -	20/4 a' 25/5
White feed Oats - -	n. q.	- - -	- - -	65 a' 70	- - -	16/6 a' 17/8
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	260 a' 290	- - -	- - -	350 a' 400	- - -	88/11 a' 101/7
Konigsberg Rye - -	180 a' 190	- - -	- - -	210 a' 256	- - -	53/4 a' 65/.
Brew Oats - - -	130 a' 130	- - -	- - -	100 a' 120	- - -	25/5 a' 30/6
White feed Oats - -	115 a' 125	- - -	- - -	75 a' 90	- - -	19/ a' 22/10

	1801:			1802:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	340 a' 400	10⅓/ & 10½ p' last.	87/8 a' 103/3	420 a' 450	10¾/ & 10½ p' last.	104/2 a' 111/9
Konigsberg Rye - -	280 a' 300	- - -	72/3 a' 78/6	220 a' 240	- - -	54/8 a' 59/6
Brew Oats - - -	80 a' 110	- - -	20/7 a' 28/4	100 a' 120	- - -	24/9 a' 29/9
White feed Oats - -	60 a' 80	- - -	15/6 a' 20/8	70 a' 90	- - -	17/4 a' 22/4
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	340 a' 400	10½/ & 10½ p' last.	86/4 a' 101/7	250 a' 290	10½/ & 10½ p' last.	63/6 a' 73/8
Konigsberg Rye - -	260 a' 290	- - -	66/ a' 73/8	150 a' 200	- - -	38/1 a' 50/9
Brew Oats - - -	100 a' 120	- - -	25/5 a' 30/6	80 a' 100	- - -	20/4 a' 25/5
White feed Oats - -	75 a' 90	- - -	19/ a' 22/10	60 a' 70	- - -	15/3 a' 17/9
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	400 a' 430	10⅓/ & 10½ p' last.	103/2 a' 110/11	240 a' 300	11/ & 10½ p' last.	58/2 a' 72/8
Konigsberg Rye - -	210 a' 250	- - -	54/2 a' 64/6	140 a' 200	- - -	34/ a' 48/6
Brew Oats - - -	125 a' 140	- - -	32/3 a' 36/2	85 a' 100	- - -	20/7 a' 24/3
White feed Oats - -	90 a' 120	- - -	23/3 a' 30/11	70 a' 80	- - -	17/ a' 19/5

N^o 1.—Translation from the Dutch—*continued.*

	1803:			1804:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:		<i>qrs. p' last.</i>			<i>qrs. p' last.</i>	
Mixed and White G. G.	280 a' 300	35½/. & 10½	70/1 a' 75/1	230 a' 270	36/. & 5 p' ct. & 10½	54/1 a' 63/6
Konigsberg Rye - -	190 a' 225	- - -	47/7 a' 56/4	115 a' 176	- - -	27/1 a' 41/5
Brew Oats - - - -	90 a' 100	- - -	22/6 a' 25/4	90 a' 100	- - -	21/2 a' 23/6
White feed Oats - -	70 a' 80	- - -	17/6 a' 20/4	76 a' 90	- - -	17/10 a' 21/2
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	260 a' 290	36/. & 5 p' ct. & 10½	61/2 a' 68/2	220 a' 250	37/. & 3 p' ct. & 10½	51/. a' 58/4
Konigsberg Rye - -	180 a' 220	- - -	42/4 a' 51/8	120 a' 170	- - -	28/1 a' 39/8
Brew Oats - - - -	80 a' 100	- - -	18/9 a' 23/6	76 a' 86	- - -	17/9 a' 20/8
White feed Oats - -	70 a' 80	- - -	16/5 a' 18/9	60 a' 70	- - -	13/11 a' 16/4
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	240 a' 300	35/. & 5 p' ct. & 10½	58/1 a' 72/7	260 a' 290	37/. & 4 p' ct. & 10½	60/1 a' 60/7
Konigsberg Rye - -	140 a' 190	- - -	33/10 a' 45/11	165 a' 190	- - -	38/1 a' 43/11
Brew Oats - - - -	80 a' 100	- - -	19/4 a' 24/2	105 a' 125	- - -	24/3 a' 28/10
White feed Oats - -	70 a' 80	- - -	16/11 a' 19/4	80 a' 84	- - -	18/6 a' 19/4

	1805:			1806:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
JANUARY:		<i>qrs. p' last.</i>			<i>qrs. p' last.</i>	
Mixed and White G. G.	350 a' 400	37/. & 4 p' ct. & 10½	80/10 a' 92/5	360 a' 390	35/. & 4 p' ct. & 10½	87/11 a' 95/3
Konigsberg Rye - -	195 a' 220	- - -	45/1 a' 50/9	210 a' 250	- - -	51/3 a' 61/1
Brew Oats - - - -	125 a' 136	- - -	28/10 a' 31/5	100 a' 115	- - -	24/5 a' 28/1
White feed Oats - -	88 a' 95	- - -	20/4 a' 21/11	80 a' 92	- - -	19/6 a' 22/6
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	340 a' 390	- - -	78/7 a' 90/1	360 a' 420	35/. & 3 p' ct. & 10½	88/9 a' 103/6
Konigsberg Rye - -	150 a' 190	- - -	34/9 a' 43/11	230 a' 260	- - -	56/9 a' 64/1
Brew Oats - - - -	115 a' 125	- - -	26/7 a' 28/10	95 a' 110	- - -	23/5 a' 27/1
White feed Oats - -	75 a' 90	- - -	17/4 a' 20/9	60 a' 80	- - -	14/9 a' 19/9
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	340 a' 400	37/. & 5 p' ct. & 10½	77/11 a' 91/6	360 a' 390	36/. & 3 p' ct. & 10½	86/4 a' 93/6
Konigsberg Rye - -	195 a' 225	- - -	44/7 a' 51/6	210 a' 250	- - -	50/2 a' 59/10
Brew Oats - - - -	170 a' 190	- - -	38/11 a' 43/6	100 a' 115	- - -	23/11 a' 27/7
White feed Oats - -	125 a' 135	- - -	28/7 a' 30/11	80 a' 92	- - -	19/2 a' 22/1

	1807:			1808:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:		<i>qrs. p' last.</i>			<i>qrs. p' last.</i>	
Mixed and White G. G.	390 a' 420	35/. & 3% 10½	96/2 a' 103/6	260 a' 400	35/. & 3% 10½	64/1 a' 98/7
Konigsberg Rye - -	225 a' 275	- - -	55/6 a' 67/9	nothing quoted	- - -	- - -
Brew Oats - - - -	80 a' 99	- - -	19/9 a' 24/5	90 a' 110	- - -	22/2 a' 27/1
White feed Oats - -	60 a' 78	- - -	14/9 a' 19/3	50 a' 75	- - -	12/4 a' 18/6
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	380	36/. & 3% 10½	91/1	240 a' 350	35/. & 2% 10½	59/9 a' 87/2
Konigsberg Rye - -	220 a' 265	- - -	52/8 a' 63/6	n. q.	- - -	- - -
Brew Oats - - - -	80 a' 100	- - -	19/2 a' 23/11	90 a' 110	- - -	22/5 a' 27/5
White feed Oats - -	50 a' 70	- - -	12/. a' 16/9	50 a' 75	- - -	12/5 a' 18/8
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	380 a' 430	34/4 p' ct. & 10½	95/6 a' 108/1	260 a' 350	34/. & 2% 10½	66/8 a' 89/9
Konigsberg Rye - -	220 a' 250	- - -	55/4 a' 62/10	n. q.	- - -	- - -
Brew Oats - - - -	90 a' 115	- - -	22/8 a' 28/11	85 a' 100	- - -	21/9 a' 25/8
White feed Oats - -	65 a' 88	- - -	16/5 a' 22/2	56 a' 75	- - -	14/6 a' 19/1

N^o 1.—Translation from the Dutch—continued.

		1809:			1810:		
		Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:			qrs. p' last.			qrs. p' last.	
Mixed and White G.G.	240 a' 330	32/. & 3%	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	64/9 a' 89/.	n. q.	31/. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	150 a' 190	-	-	40/5 a' 51/3	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	80 a' 90	-	-	21/7 a' 24/3	90 a' 115	-	25/10 a' 33/.
White feed Oats	50 a' 70	-	-	13/6 a' 19/.	65 a' 90	-	18/8 a' 25/10
MAY:							
Mixed and White G.G.	nothing quoted	31/. & 2%	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	n. q.	33/. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	80 a' 100	-	-	22/6 a' 28/2	70 a' 90	-	18/10 a' 24/3
White feed Oats	65 a' 80	-	-	18/3 a' 22/6	45 a' 72	-	12/1 a' 19/5
SEPTEMBER:							
Mixed and White G.G.	n. q.	30/. & 2%	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	n. q.	32/. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	85 a' 110	-	-	24/9 a' 31/11	70 a' 90	-	19/5 a' 25/.
White feed Oats	65 a' 85	-	-	18/11 a' 24/9	45 a' 70	-	12/6 a' 19/5.

		1811:			1812:		
		Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:			qrs. p' last.			qrs. p' last.	
Mixed and White G.G.	nothing quoted	28/. & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	n. q.	28/. & 3% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	60 a' 86	-	-	19/1 a' 27/4	60 a' 76	-	18/6 a' 23/5
White feed Oats	38 a' 62	-	-	12/1 a' 19/8	40 a' 58	-	12/4 a' 17/11
MAY:							
Mixed and White G.G.	n. q.	26/. & 2 p' ct. & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	n. q.	29/. & 3% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	58 a' 70	-	-	19/5 a' 23/6	90 a' 104	-	26/9 a' 30/11
White feed Oats	32 a' 48	-	-	10/9 a' 16/1	64 a' 80	-	19/1 a' 23/10
SEPTEMBER.							
Mixed and White G.G.	n. q.	28/. & 2 p' ct. & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	n. q.	28/. & 3% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	50 a' 70	-	-	15/6 a' 21/9	78 a' 92	-	24/. a' 28/4
White feed Oats	40 a' 55	-	-	12/5 a' 17/1	50 a' 70	-	15/5 a' 21/7

		1813:			1814:		
		Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:			qrs. p' last.			qrs. p' last.	
Mixed and White G.G.	nothing quoted	29/. & 5% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	n. q.	30/. & 2% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	n. q.	-	—
Brew Oats	82 a' 100	-	-	24/1 a' 29/2	104 a' 112	-	30/3 a' 32/6
White feed Oats	56 a' 76	-	-	16/3 a' 22/2	95 a' 105	-	27/7 a' 30/6
MAY:							
Mixed and White G.G.	n. q.	30/. & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	220 a' 230	28/. & 2% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	68/6 a' 71/7
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	135 a' 145	-	42/. a' 45/1
Brew Oats	88 a' 108	-	-	26/1 a' 32/.	76 a' 86	-	23/8 a' 26/9
White feed Oats	66 a' 80	-	-	19/7 a' 23/8	60 a' 72	-	18/8 a' 22/5
SEPTEMBER:							
Mixed and White G.G.	n. q.	29/. & 2% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	230 a' 260	34/. & 2% & 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	58/11 a' 66/8
Konigsberg Rye	n. q.	-	-	-	140 a' 156	-	35/11 a' 39/11
Brew Oats	70 a' 92	-	-	21/. a' 27/7	80 a' 86	-	20/6 a' 22/5
White feed Oats	56 a' 68	-	-	16/10 a' 20/5	66 a' 76	-	26/11 a' 19/6

N^o 1.—Translation from the Dutch—*continued*.

	1815:			1816:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	nothing quoted	33 & 2% ^{qrs. p' last.} 10½	- - -	n. q.	36/. & 2% ^{qrs. p' last.} 10½	—
Konigsberg Rye - - -	n. q.	- - -	- - -	135 a' 156	- - -	32/6 a' 37/9
Brew Oats - - -	80 a' 86	- - -	21/1 a' 22/9	70 a' 76	- - -	16/11 a' 18/5
White feed Oats - - -	66 a' 76	- - -	17/5 a' 20/1	60 a' 70	- - -	14/6 a' 16/11
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	n. q.	29/. & 2% ^{qrs. p' last.} 10½	- - -	246 a' 256	38/. & 2% ^{qrs. p' last.} 10½	56/3 a' 58/8
Konigsberg Rye - - -	130 a' 140	- - -	39/1 a' 42/1	135 a' 146	- - -	30/11 a' 33/6
Brew Oats - - -	76 a' 86	- - -	22/10 a' 25/10	60 a' 72	- - -	13/9 a' 16/6
White feed Oats - - -	66 a' 74	- - -	19/10 a' 22/4	50 a' 60	- - -	11/5 a' 13/9
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	n. q.	35/. & 2% ^{qrs. p' last.} 10½	- - -	275 a' 300	39/. & 2% ^{qrs. p' last.} 10½	61/6 a' 67/.
Konigsberg Rye - - -	120 a' 145	- - -	29/10 a' 36/1	166 a' 196	- - -	37/1 a' 43/10
Brew Oats - - -	85 a' 95	- - -	21/2 a' 23/8	75 a' 85	- - -	16/9 a' 18/11
White feed Oats - - -	78 a' 88	- - -	19/5 a' 21/11	60 a' 70	- - -	13/4 a' 15/6
	1817:			1818:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	510 a' 540	38/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	117/. a' 123/10	340 a' 410	36/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	82/3 a' 99/3
Konigsberg Rye - - -	270 a' 295	- - -	61/11 a' 67/8	170 a' 215	- - -	41/. a' 52/1
Brew Oats - - -	120 a' 130	- - -	27/6 a' 29/10	n. q.	- - -	—
White feed Oats - - -	112 a' 124	- - -	25/8 a' 28/5	n. q.	- - -	—
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	480 a' 530	37/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	113/1 a' 124/11	300 a' 350	36/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	72/7 a' 84/9
Konigsberg Rye - - -	256 a' 286	- - -	60/5 a' 67/6	140 a' 174	- - -	33/11 a' 42/1
Brew Oats - - -	140 a' 160	- - -	33/. a' 37/8	108 a' 124	- - -	26/1 a' 30/.
White feed Oats - - -	85 a' 140	- - -	20/. a' 33/.	80 a' 106	- - -	19/4 a' 25/8
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	400 a' 466	37/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	94/4 a' 109/9	400 a' 480	37/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	94/4 a' 113/1
Konigsberg Rye - - -	155 a' 200	- - -	36/6 a' 47/2	170 a' 205	- - -	40/1 a' 48/3
Brew Oats - - -	nothing quoted	- - -	- - -	130 a' 150	- - -	30/. a' 25/4
White feed Oats - - -	n. q.	- - -	- - -	110 a' 126	- - -	25/11 a' 29/8
	1819:			1820:		
	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.	Price.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter, Winchester measure.
JANUARY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	350 a' 370	36/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	84/9 a' 89/7	190 a' 210	38/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	43/7 a' 48/2
Konigsberg Rye - - -	170 a' 200	- - -	41/2 a' 48/5	112 a' 130	- - -	25/8 a' 29/10
Brew Oats - - -	128 a' 150	- - -	31/. a' 36/4	85 a' 100	- - -	19/6 a' 22/11
White feed Oats - - -	110 a' 120	- - -	26/8 a' 29/.	60 a' 80	- - -	13/9 a' 18/4
MAY:						
Mixed and White G. G.	240 a' 280	36/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	58/1 a' 67/9	200 a' 220	40/. & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	44/5 a' 48/11
Konigsberg Rye - - -	150 a' 164	- - -	31/. a' 39/8	110 a' 130	- - -	24/5 a' 28/11
Brew Oats - - -	110 a' 120	- - -	26/8 a' 29/.	75 a' 95	- - -	16/8 a' 21/2
White feed Oats - - -	80 a' 95	- - -	19/4 a' 20/.	50 a' 70	- - -	11/1 a' 15/7
SEPTEMBER:						
Mixed and White G. G.	210 a' 260	38/. & 2 & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	48/2 a' 59/8	188 a' 210	40/. & 10½ ^{qrs. p' last.}	41/9 a' 46/8
Konigsberg Rye - - -	120 a' 140	- - -	27/6 a' 32/1	100 a' 125	- - -	22/3 a' 27/9
Brew Oats - - -	75 a' 95	- - -	17/4 a' 21/9	80 a' 90	- - -	17/9 a' 20/.
White feed Oats - - -	65 a' 85	- - -	14/11 a' 19/6	55 a' 78	- - -	12/3 a' 17/4

N° 2.

TRANSLATED FROM THE DUTCH.

	PRICE in 1812:			Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
	January.	May.	September.		
Wheat of 122 lb. G.gl.	290	- - -	- - -	28/. & 3 ^{grs. p' last.} / ₁₀ 10 ¹ / ₂	89/4
Old Groning Rye of 120 lb. }	278	- - -	- - -	- - -	85/7
Old Wheat of 130 lb. -	- - G.gl.	470	- - -	29/. & 3 ^{grs. p' last.} / ₁₀	139/10
Brown Rye of 113, 114, 115 lb. }	- - G.gl.	297 a' 300 304	- - -	- - -	88/3 a' 89/3 90/5
Old Rheinisch Wheat of 129 lb. }	- - -	- - G.gl.	386	28/. & 3 ^{grs. p' last.} / ₁₀	118/11
New Gelderland Rye of 120 a' 122 lb. }	- - -	- - G.gl.	232 a' 237	- - -	71/5 a' 73/-
Friesland Wheat - -	- - -	- - -	- - G.gl.	-	-
Brown and Upland Rye	- - -	- - -	- - G.gl.	-	-
Old Marks Wheat of 127, 128 lb. }	-	-	-	-	-
Rye of 116 a' 117 lb. -	-	-	-	-	-
North Wheat of 124 lb.	-	-	-	-	-
Old Rye of 120 a' 122 lb.	-	-	-	-	-

(continued.)

	PRICE in 1813:			Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
	January.	May.	September.		
Wheat of 122 lb. G.gl.	-	-	-	grs. p' last.	-
Old Groning Rye of 120 lb. }	-	-	-	-	-
Old Wheat of 130 lb. -	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Rye of 113, 114, 115 lb. }	-	-	-	-	-
Old Rheinisch Wheat of 129 lb. }	-	-	-	-	-
New Gelderland Rye of 120 a' 122 lb. }	-	-	-	-	-
Friesland Wheat - -	370 a' 410	- - -	- - -	29/. & 5 ^{grs. p' last.} / ₁₀ & 10 ¹ / ₂	108/. a' 119/8
Brown and Upland Rye	265 a' 395	- - -	- - -	- - -	77/4 a' 115/3
Old Marks Wheat of 127, 128 lb. }	- - G.gl.	370 a' 373	- - -	30/. & 10 ¹ / ₂	109/7 a' 110/6
Rye of 116 a' 117 lb. -	- - G.gl.	222 a' 224	- - -	- - -	65/9 a' 66/5
North Wheat of 124 lb.	- - -	- - G.gl.	264	29/. & 2 ^{grs. p' last.} / ₁₀ & 10 ¹ / ₂	79/4
Old Rye of 120 a' 122 lb.	- - -	- - G.gl.	190 a' 250	- - -	57/1 a' 77/10

NORTH HOLLAND.

DATE.	GRAIN.	PRICE.	Course of Exchange.	Shillings sterling per Quarter Winchester measure.
In 1796: January -	Konigsberg Rye is not quoted.		grs. p' last.	
— May - -	Brown - - G. gl. D° - - G. gl.	265 a' 280 125 a' 155	35/. & 3% & 10½	65/4 a' 69/ 30/10 a' 38/2
1808: January -	Konigsberg Rye not quoted, only			
— May - -	Brown - - G. gl.	130 a' 190	a' 35 & 3% 10½	32/. a' 46/9
— September	Brown - - G. gl. Brown - - G. gl.	130 a' 160 140 a' 170	- - -	32/. a' 39/5 34/6 a' 41/11
1809: May -	Wheat not quoted. Zealand - - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye not quoted.	160 a' 235	31/. & 2% & 10½	45/. a' 66/2
— September	Brown - - G. gl. Wheat not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Friesland - - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye not quoted, only Brown - - G. gl.	120 a' 150 175 a' 255 180 a' 230 125 a' 150	- - - 30/. & 2% & 10½ - - - - - -	33/9 a' 42/2 50/9 a' 74/11 52/3 a' 66/10 36/4 a' 43/7
1810: January -	Wheat is not quoted, only Friesland - - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Brown - - G. gl.	200 a' 250 200 a' 266 110 a' 135	31/. & 10½ - - - - - -	57/4 a' 71/8 57/4 a' 76/3 31/6 a' 38/8
— May - -	Wheat not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Friesland - - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye not quoted, only Brown - - G. gl.	185 a' 265 190 a' 240 110 a' 122	33/. & 10½ - - - - - -	49/10 a' 71/4 51/2 a' 64/8 29/8 a' 32/11
— September	Wheat is not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Friesland - - G. gl. Rye is not quoted, only Brown - - G. gl.	200 a' 280 190 a' 240 110 a' 122	32/. & 10½ - - - - - -	55/6 a' 77/9 52/9 a' 66/8 30/6 a' 33/10
1811: January -	Wheat not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Friesland - - G. gl. Rye, only Brown - - G. gl.	200 a' 275 195 a' 250 110 a' 145	28/. & 10½ - - - - - -	63/6 a' 87/3 61/11 a' 79/4 34/11 a' 46/.
— May - -	Wheat not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Friesland - - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye not quoted, only Brown - - G. gl.	200 a' 250 195 a' 220 120 a' 145	26/. & 2% & 10½ - - - - - -	67/. a' 83/9 65/4 a' 73/8 40/2 a' 48/7
— September	Wheat not quoted, only Zealand - - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye not quoted, only Brown - - G. gl.	235 a' 305 165 a' 190	28/. & 2% & 10½ - - -	72/10 a' 94/11 51/4 a' 59/1
1814: January -	Wheat not quoted, only New Zealand - G. gl. Konigsberg Rye is not quoted, only Upland and Brown G. gl.	240 a' 260 160 a' 175	30/. & 2% & 10½ - - -	69/8 a' 75/6 46/5 a' 50/9
1815: January -	Zealand - - G. gl. Old. - - - New - - - Rye - - G. gl. Upland and Brown -	240 a' 250 170 a' 206 138 a' 150	33/. & 2% & 10½ - - - - - -	63/3 a' 65/11 44/10 a' 54/3 36/4 a' 39/6
— May - -	Old Zealand Wheat G. gl. Brown Rye - - G. gl.	186 a' 210 110 a' 134	29/. & 2% & 10½ - - -	55/10 a' 63/ 33/. a' 40/2
— September	Old Zealand - - G. gl.	205 a' 235	35/. & 2% & 10½	51/1 a' 58/6
1816: January -	Old Zealand Wheat G. gl.	195 a' 205	36/. & 2% & 10½	47/1 a' 49/7

Martis, 17^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

James Conolly, Esquire;

Called in; and Examined.

YOU are a corn merchant of Dublin?—I am.

Are you acquainted with the present state of agriculture in Ireland?—Yes, I think I am.

*James Conolly,
Esq.*

Can you state the last general prices of corn in Ireland?—I can.

(17 April.)

Be so good as to do so?—The average price of wheat may be considered in Ireland, at this moment, as being from 24 s. to 25 s. a barrel, each barrel weighing 20 stone; or taking it at the British quarter, it is 40 s. per quarter Irish money, or rather, from 37 s. to 40 s.

The barrel contains five bushels?—It weighs 20 stone; every description of grain is bought and sold by weight with us in Ireland.

State the difference between the English and Irish measures?—We have no corn measure in Ireland; we go entirely by weight; our bushel, in weight, is 56 lbs. and varies, when measured, according to the quality of the wheat; the heavier the wheat, the more the bushel of it, when measured, will weigh; the general run of wheat, which we export from Ireland to England, the weight is about 58 lbs. per Winchester bushel; our barrel is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.; the relative proportion between the Irish and the Winchester bushel is 56 lbs.; that is the standard of the two countries.

What then is the proportion that you think the Irish barrel bears to the English quarter?—I think, from 32 stone and a half to 33 stone, is the usual weight that the Irish barrel bears in proportion to the English quarter; in some instances, the quarter as much as 34 stone, according to the quality.

As the Irish barrel is 20 stone weight, can you express the real relation between the barrel in Ireland and the bushel in England?—The general estimation of five bushels is equal to our barrel.

The Committee understand that you deal very extensively?—I have dealt in corn for a great number of years, as many as 40; I have been a practical dealer in corn, and every species of grain, for more than that period; I am also largely concerned in flour mills.

And you are also an extensive dealer in malt?—I am.

Have you imported a great deal of corn lately from England?—No.

Have you exported a good deal to England?—Yes.

Can you state the quantity of corn exported from Ireland to England, compared with former years?—I can only state as far as this, that since the last harvest, which we may call as commencing on the 1st of September, we have exported more corn, consisting of wheat and oats, within that period, than ever was exported within any one year previously.

Do you mean, exported to Great Britain only, or do you include the rest of the world?—We export very little corn, at present, to any other place but Great Britain.

What proportion do the exports of corn from Ireland, during the last year, bear to the exports in the two or three preceding years?—Very considerably greater.

Are the prices of corn in Ireland, in your opinion, adequate to remunerate the farmer for his expense and labour in cultivating the land, with reference to his rent?—Not at the present rent he pays, I am sure they are not, particularly for spring corn; the prices for spring corn are ruinous at the present moment; wheat is better lately than it was.

Will you state to the Committee, the prices of spring corn in Ireland, at the present time?—Wheat is 40 s. Irish money, per quarter, British, according to the best of my information; barley, upon an average, I should suppose, is somewhere about 17 s. the British quarter, and oats about 13 s.; I think these are about the average prices, taking into my calculation, the markets of the interior and outports of the country altogether; I make my calculation upon a general average.

James Conolly,
Esq.

(17 April.)

What is the expense of bringing a quarter of wheat from Ireland to London?—The expense is about seven shillings a quarter.

What is the expense of bringing it to Liverpool?—Less to Liverpool and Scotland.

Have you any objection to state the quantity of corn that your house has sent out in the way of export?—I am not myself, at present, an exporter of corn to any considerable amount; I have given up that department to a house in which my son is a partner; their exports to this country, within the last year, I take to have been about 70,000 barrels, mostly since the middle of August last, because the crops came in early, and the harvest began early.

To what ports were those exports sent?—Principally to the northern ports of England, to Liverpool, and thence they found their way to Manchester in that direction, to the Clyde, London, and to the English Channel.

Did these exports consist of oats or wheat?—Both wheat and oats and flour.

The Committee understand that your flour mills are very extensive; what quantity of flour are they capable of making in the course of a year?—About 20,000 barrels of wheat into flour; the receipts at my mills, since the 1st of September last, of the different kinds of corn, were between 60,000 and 70,000 barrels, besides my son's mills and concerns, in which he has received between 15,000 and 16,000 barrels more.

Do you think that the agriculture of Ireland is in its rise or stationary, or in a state of retrogradation?—I think it is increasing prodigiously; I think there never was more corn in the ground, at this period of the year, than there is now.

Do you think, that if the prices do not mend, that the agriculture of Ireland can go on in a progressive state of improvement?—It is impossible that it can go on unless there is some amendment in the prices, or a reduction in the rent and charges of land; particularly with reference to the prices of spring corn.

Do you think the present corn laws are sufficient to hold out protection to the farmer?—I never had two opinions on the subject of the corn law since it was enacted. I think it was the best law I ever knew provided on such a subject.

What corn law do you allude to?—I mean the late corn law; it was the best ever enacted, provided it gave the protection it professed to give; but I think it does not give that protection; I am satisfied it does not.

Do you mean by the late, the present corn law?—I mean the last corn law which raised the protecting price of wheat to 80s. and so on, rateable prices on other descriptions of corn.

Then since that law has failed to give the protection which it professes to hold out, what protection do you think to be necessary in your judgment?—I think that the protection which the present corn law professes to give, would be quite sufficient provided it were really given.

But as you say it does not give that protection, what would you suggest as a remedy?—It is impossible for me to suggest a better remedy, provided it was really and fairly carried into effect.

Do you think a protecting duty would answer the purpose?—I have no doubt that a protecting duty would answer the purpose. I never entertained any doubt of it.

Would not a protecting duty be more simple in its process, and more sure of answering its object?—I think it would, particularly from the experience we have had of the difficulty in enforcing the present corn law, and preventing the frauds that have occurred.

Do you think the farmer stands in need of an assurance of permanent protection?—I am satisfied he does; and that there is nothing which could confer greater benefit upon Ireland than that one thing, as it would be the means of perpetuating plenty and preventing excessive prices.

You mentioned your mills just now, and you also mentioned the fact of your having exported flour to England; do you think that the result of the corn laws in Ireland, is, that no foreign flour can be imported?—Yes; it is the operation of those laws, that has produced the establishment of our mills; and they have also produced a granary system in the country.

Do not the mills operate as granaries?—No doubt of it; the best of granaries; for every man will endeavour to take care of his own property.

And granaries are furnished only with home corn?—Home corn and nothing else.

Then you think the protection of the millers is essential to the protection of the farmer?—There is no question about it.

Do you find it so from your own experience in Ireland?—I have always found it so; it is such a market at every farmer's door.

Does

Does any thing else occur to you to mention to this Committee, respecting the state of the Irish trade or the Irish tillage?—I think it would be an useful addition to the present corn law to have a general protection from the importation of any ground foreign corn, of any description, such as we are in Ireland subject to; that would serve Ireland very much, and also benefit the English farmer.

When you say “we,” you mean England?—I do; I think that would be an amazing benefit to the country in general.

Have you any trade in the exportation of Irish flour to the West Indies?—I have sent Irish flour to America, and I have sent Irish flour to the West Indies; and I am satisfied that we can prepare Irish flour equal to any flour upon earth for exportation; I have no question at all of it, from the improvements that have been made in our mills, and the extension of them.

Have you had any proof of that flour being so well received in those countries?—There is, certainly, a prejudice against it; but I should suppose that prejudice would in time be removed.

Do you think it would keep so well?—I think it would as well as any flour on earth. I have no hesitation in saying so.

To what do you attribute the improvement in the manufacture of the flour besides the improvement in the mills; is it in any degree owing to the mode of preparing the flour?—By improvements in the machinery and by the manufacture of it. We have one entire process of kiln-drying and cleaning our corn, before it goes to the hopper to be ground.

State the particulars of the process in that manufactory?—When we receive our corn from the farmers, it comes in general in a raw and very damp state; so much so, that if it lay for a week in that state in our granary it would be materially injured; to prevent which it is immediately taken to our kilns, and is frequently skreened even before it goes to the kilns. After that it is put into process for keeping, by skreening it again before returned into our granaries, and from thence it goes through an entire process before it goes into the hopper by a different mode of cleaning, taking every thing that can injure it out of it, and also taking the small grain out of it, which is ground for particular purposes, and is manufactured into what is called third or fourth flour.

In Great Britain corn in flour is admitted?—Yes; but it is only admitted for consumption when the ports are open to admit foreign corn.

When it is admitted, do you know of any instances wherein foreign flour has been sent to Ireland as if it were British flour?—I cannot take upon myself to say, that I know the fact of my own knowledge; but I have heard of its being done, and I believe it; I have, however, no proof of it.

That could not continue to be the case if foreign flour was equally prohibited in England as if it was in Ireland?—Certainly not.

And so far as that operates, it is a substitute of the produce of foreign countries instead of British corn?—No doubt of it.

Will you state, whether the ports were not opened for oats lately?—They were opened to foreign oats in August last.

What effect had that in Ireland?—It had a very distressing effect upon Ireland.

State what effect the opening of the ports had upon that article in Ireland?—It had a great effect upon spring corn.

In what way?—By producing a prodigious reduction in the price in the United Kingdom.

Was the price at that time high in Ireland?—It was high compared with the present.

What were the prices?—They were four five or six shillings a barrel more than at present. I suppose that to be about the difference taking it from my recollection. I am convinced that the ports being opened at that time for the article of oats, produced a reduction in price to the Irish farmer equal to what would pay the whole rent of the spring corn of the country; and that upon a very moderate calculation.

How long did it last?—It lasted until the following quarter day.

Was the quantity imported at that time very great?—I understand about 700,000 quarters; I have not the returns.

You speak of the importation into Ireland alone?—We have had no importation into Ireland; the importation was into England and Scotland. In speaking of Ireland alone, I take the liberty of stating on what I ground my calculation; I take the average rent per acre for spring corn to be about 30s. which would produce an average produce of 10 barrels of oats; and as I apprehend, the price in conse-

James Conolly,
Esq.

(17 April.)

quence of the ports being opened, declined at least 3 s. per barrel, that would have paid the tenant's rent.

Have you any reason to believe that that price was the fair price at which the article should have been calculated?—I am convinced it was not; I have no hesitation in saying so.

Do you recollect any circumstances that you can mention to the Committee, which lead you to the supposition that it was not the fair price?—I have no circumstances to mention, only what was so perfectly known, that the prices in every part of the country could not have justified the opening of the ports.

Have you heard of any fraud being practised upon that subject?—I have heard of two or three frauds practised of that kind; there was a fraud practised about two years since which Mr. Peel told me of, which occasioned the ports to be opened for the importation of foreign oats. I think this was two years ago.

The Committee's question referred to the present time, as to the late opening of the ports. Have you heard of any frauds practised, which induced the opening of the ports last year?—I have; I heard that the ports were opened by fraud.

In what particular way was that fraud practised?—I heard that it originated in some place in Wales, from which returns were made, and by which the average price of oats was taken; any man who has credit and capital enough to raise the price of corn by factitious means, to that amount which is the criterion for opening the ports under the present law, may effect such a fraud, and it is by that means that the fraud is enabled to be affected.

Then the whole injury to Ireland, by the importation of oats, is imputable to the defect of the corn laws, or their fraudulent execution?—No question of it; it is the defect in the execution of the corn laws that occasioned that mischief.

If that importation had not been made of oats, have you reason to believe, that the present depression in the price would not have been so great as it is?—Most certainly it would not.

Then you have reason to believe, that the present depression is owing to that fraudulent importation?—Not to the extent that it operates; but it has been the cause of a considerable depression equal to the quantum I have mentioned.

Are not oats a very great crop in Ireland?—A very great crop; a prodigious crop.

Is not the tillage of oats very extensive?—Very extensive.

Ireland has always been in the habit of exporting oats?—Always; and I think, the exportations now are more extensive than they have been in consequence of the poverty of the farmer, because he can reach the culture of oats when he can not reach wheat.

About what time did the agriculture of Ireland begin to increase; how many years ago do you recollect?—A great many years ago.

When was it the first agricultural law was passed, to which the increase of Irish tillage is to be attributed?—About 33 or 34 years ago, as well as I can recollect.

She has been an exporting country for many years?—For many years, excepting one or two calamitous years.

She has been an exporting and not an importing country since the first corn law passed?—Yes, with the exceptions I have mentioned.

Is Ireland capable of producing a great deal more than she does now?—No doubt of it.

You have looked to the history of the imports of corn into England from the corn papers; have you at different times?—I have.

Is it your opinion that the Irish agriculturists could supply all the deficiency that there is in the English market, if they were encouraged to extend their tillage?—I think there is every reason to believe, that the United Kingdom, at this moment, is incapable of supplying herself fully with corn.

And do you think, that supply would be raised if the farmer felt confidence in the protection of the legislature?—I have no doubt of it; and I am satisfied it would have the effect which I mentioned before, of perpetuating plenty and keeping the prices from being excessive.

Do you think that if there was that plenty in the country, that the price could be excessive?—I think it could not; and I do think further, that no one bad harvest or calamitous year, would raise the prices to such a height as to render it necessary to open the ports for foreign corn; that is, after some period, when the law began to work, and the agriculturists had confidence in the assurance that it gave them of protection; perfect confidence in legislative protection would produce this desirable effect.

What

What is the quality of Irish wheat, as compared with English?—It is inferior in quality; that is, it is inferior in quality, taking it when coming from the farmer as from the English farmer; the quality of Irish wheat, in that state, is inferior to the English; but if we export the corn, it is put into such a condition, that I think it then comes as nearly as possible to the average quality of the English wheat.

At what difference of price would you estimate the inferiority of Irish wheat to English wheat?—I don't think I should be able to answer the question in any other way than by comparing the two together in the way that I have mentioned.

In the English market, what is the difference of price between the English and Irish wheat per quarter?—I have stated to the Committee, that before we send wheat to the London market, we are obliged to prepare it; that is done at an expense of about $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It will take that to prepare it, and put it into condition for shipping, after we receive it from the farmer; and when that wheat comes to the London market, I suppose, upon an average it may be 2 s. or 3 s. a quarter less in value than the average of the British corn. But there is a considerable difference in the corn of a superior quality. When I am talking of the average, I am referring to the middle wheats of both countries; and I should imagine that that would be the difference in price. As to the Irish fine wheats, that is seldom exported; it is generally purchased by the miller to make superior flour for home consumption.

What price, do you think, would be a remunerating price for wheat per English quarter in Ireland?—I am inadequate to say. The present price of wheat in Ireland, taken raw from the farmer, is about 25 s. to 26 s. Irish, for twenty stone; and that would stand in 40 s. to 42 s. British money per British quarter, to put it on board ship prepared.

Is that a remunerating price to the farmer?—Wheat coming to London would be subject to 7 s. a quarter more, that would make it 49 s. a quarter; so that a person buying corn at present in Ireland in any of the ports, as Dublin, Waterford, Limerick, &c. it would stand him on board ship 42 s. British; and 49 s. to London, after all charges; therefore, if sold for 49 s. British, it would only leave a line balance for his wheat and expenses.

That is, it would leave him no profit?—It would leave him no profit whatever.

How much under the remunerating price would this be to the Irish farmer?—I am not able to answer that question; I am no farmer. A great deal depends upon the quantity of his crop; their last crop, certainly, has been very great.

Do you know what is the expense of cultivating an acre of wheat in Ireland?—No, I do not; I am not a practical farmer.

Have the expenses of cultivation been lately reduced?—I do believe that they have been reduced in this way; that many farmers have been so reduced, that, instead of employing labourers, they employ themselves and their families; and that, of course, must greatly tend to reduce their expenses.

But have any of the articles employed by the farmers in tillage, been reduced in price?—Not that I know of; indeed the articles that they make use of are not expensive.

Do you expect them to be reduced in price?—I do not know; but this I will say, that the articles, such as machinery and mechanical apparatus, which the Irish farmers use in cultivating the soil, are not at all of the description used by the English farmers. In that country the mechanical part of the tillage is quite a different thing from what it is in this.

Would not a fall of rent reduce the remunerating price to the farmer?—Certainly.

How much do you think could the remunerating price of corn in Ireland be reduced by a reduction of the rent?—I cannot answer that question precisely; but I believe at this moment, that the rate at which spring corn sells now, and at this advanced period of the year, it would not admit of paying any rent by the farmers.

If the present low price of corn should continue, there will be no temptation to the Irish farmer to increase the tillage in that country?—Most certainly not.

Can any corn law of the description of the present law, give protection to the farmer; for example, supposing instead of 80 s. the protecting price should be 100 s.?—I do consider that the present law is fully sufficient; I should not like to see the average prices raised. I am perfectly satisfied, that it would be full protection, provided, as I took the liberty of mentioning before, that it gave the protection which it professes.

But you have reason to believe that it does not give what it professes?—

James Conolly,
Esq.

(17 April.)

Certainly, inasmuch as it is found that frauds have been committed upon it, by causing the ports to be opened when they should not be opened; from that I draw the conclusion I have mentioned.

Supposing no frauds to be committed, do you think that the present law provides a sufficient protecting duty to the farmer?—I do.

Supposing that this country grew more corn than its own consumption, would the present law be any protection?—It would be a protection, ultimately; it would be a source of confidence to the farmer, but nothing more than that at present.

The Committee understood you to say, that you would prefer a permanent duty on the importation of corn, to the present corn law?—The Committee has properly understood me, but that preference to a permanent duty, is upon the principle that it would be giving more security, in preventing the recurrence of what has already happened, evading the corn law by means of fraud; for no other purpose would I prefer a permanent duty; I am perfectly satisfied with the law as it stands, if it is duly and fairly enforced.

Have you formed any opinion what permanent duty would be equal to the protection which the present corn law would hold out, if no frauds were committed?—No, I have not formed any opinion upon that point.

If the industry and capital of Ireland were not employed in agriculture, do you think they would not be employed at all?—I really do not see in what other way they could be employed, or what opening there would be for employment.

What do you mean by protection to the miller; does the corn law afford that protection?—Yes, very great protection in the article of flour, by not suffering any foreign flour to come into the country; it is by that, that the flour mills of Ireland have been established.

You have stated, that you can prepare Irish flour as good as foreign flour?—No question of it.

But can you export your flour at as cheap a price as foreign countries can?—We have not been able to export it on the same terms that America does.

Do you expect, that in time, Ireland will be able to compete with America and other countries, in the exportation of flour?—I really cannot answer that question, because whether she will or will not be able, must depend upon her being in a condition to grow corn as cheap as it is grown in America and other foreign countries.

But can you grow corn as cheap in Ireland, as it is grown in America and other foreign countries?—I do not suppose we can.

Then your opinion is, that Ireland cannot compete with foreign countries in the supply of flour for exportation?—That will depend upon our crops and our prices, of course, whether she will be able to do it; it is impossible to give any positive answer upon the subject; at the commencement of the American war, I sent flour to America as low as 10s. the cwt.

Although it may happen, that you will be able so to compete at some seasons, you do not expect that you could be able, regularly to compete with America in the supply of flour for exportation?—Not in the general run, in consequence of the rent and charges upon our lands; we could not compete in the general market of the world, from this cause.

Do you know whether rents have lately fallen in Ireland?—I believe they have.

How much have they fallen?—I am not able to inform the Committee how much.

Do you know how much rents had risen between 1797 and 1813?—I cannot inform the Committee precisely, but I believe they were raised considerably.

Have you turned your attention to the effects produced by the altered value of currency on the price of corn and other commodities?—No; that is a subject about which I know nothing; I have always been practically employed, and I have never turned my attention to such calculations.

Do you think, that as far as regards the question of importing foreign corn, the interest of the consumer of corn, is the same as that of the land owner?—I cannot answer that question further than this, that I think the consumer must certainly receive considerable benefit by that corn, had it been grown in the country instead of its being imported.

Is it not always the interest of the consumer to buy his commodity at the cheapest price?—I should imagine so, though the conviction on my mind is, that it would not.

Then if he could buy his corn cheaper in a foreign market, it would be his interest so to do?—I should suppose it would be his interest to do so, but then if you take that price, and keep it constantly at that, it must diminish the consumers' demand for some other articles in proportion as the purchasers of them decrease.

Under

(17 April.)

Under the present corn law, do you not think that the range of fluctuation in price, is greater than what would exist, if we had no corn law whatever?—I am not able to answer that question.

Will not the increasing tillage of Ireland, be injurious to the British farmer?—I suppose it must have the operation of bringing a great deal more corn to the British market, and I should imagine it must have the effect, so far, of injuring him.

You have stated, that you think, this last year, Ireland exported more corn than ever she did before; do you think that more was exported than in the year 1812?—I think a great deal more; I only go by the public documents.

How is the price of corn ascertained in Ireland; by what means?—At our public markets; the returns are given in at the Dublin market exactly as they are given in here at Mark-lane; the factors give in the returns upon oath once a-week.

Do you think that those returns include the whole quantity that comes to market?—No, they do not include quite all.

Do you think that they are returns of the middling quantity of corn?—They are the returns that are made of every description of quality, good and bad; from the best to the worst.

But you do not think that the whole quantity is included?—I don't think the whole quantity is included. There may be several parcels omitted, but not intentionally; principally from neglect.

Is the cultivation of wheat much increased in Ireland?—Very much.

Has the cultivation of wheat in Ireland operated to the injury of the cultivation of other grain?—No; I do not think it has. I think there seems a general increase of every species of grain, excepting barley; our consumption of malt has diminished seriously.

To what do you attribute that diminution?—I believe, in a great degree, to the poverty and partiality of the people to spirituous liquor; the consumption of malt liquor has fallen off within these last three years more than one-third, nearer half than one-third from what it was.

To what circumstance do you attribute that declension of malt?—I attribute the decrease of the consumption of malt, in a great degree, to the inability of the people to pay for malt liquor.

You have yourself been a brewer?—Yes; for 25 years.

Do you think the people of Ireland would be more inclined to malt liquor, if they could afford to drink it?—Certainly; a circumstance also operates as a great discouragement to malt liquor is, the cheapness of spirituous liquors; the breweries never can be extensive, while the price of spirits is so low as they are at present.

You are applying this observation to Ireland generally?—To Ireland entirely.

And to Ireland generally?—And to Ireland generally.

Is the malt distillation in Ireland increasing or decreasing?—Increasing beyond any thing; the low price of corn has increased it.

What revenue do you pay to the Crown for malting?—My monthly charge is 1,840*l.*; I malt 2,400 barrels monthly, and I pay 15*s.* 2*d.* for the duty upon each barrel.

You are not immediately concerned as a brewer?—I am; and have been for 25 years.

Do you export any of your beer?—Very little; hardly any.

Do you find that the consumption of beer is greatly decreasing in Ireland?—Very considerably decreasing; but latterly not so much; the demand is a little better now than it has been for the last two years.

What was your consumption for the year 1820 compared with the consumption of 1818?—Our consumption has been diminishing considerably during the last three years; and as well as I can recollect, I think that 30 years ago the consumption of malt in Ireland was 12,000,000 barrels; and I believe it is not 500,000 barrels at the present time.

The population of Ireland has materially increased since that time?—No doubt of it.

Are you aware that any alteration has been made in the regulations of the malt intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland?—I know, myself, that there has been such an alteration. We can now import malt from Great Britain to Ireland; and Ireland can export malt to Great Britain.

Do you believe, that that alteration will conduce to the prosperity of both countries?—I don't think, at present, it will be of any importance; there has not been any malt imported from England into Ireland yet, in consequence of it.

James Conolly,
Esq.

(17 April.)

Is that alteration a general one?—I believe it is; but barley, at present being so extremely low in Ireland, it does not admit of any importation of malt; our malt and our barley, are very much inferior to the malt and barley of Great Britain; there is no article of grain in which the difference is so great, as between the barley of England, and that of Ireland.

But you have, on some occasions, imported a much larger quantity of English malt, than you have on others?—Yes, certainly; we have had very considerable importations of British barley and British malt in former years.

To what causes do you attribute that fluctuation in the trade?—To want of consumption, certainly; our consumption was so much greater at that period; besides, at that period, as well as I can recollect, the distilleries were obliged to use malt only. Certainly so, at one period.

Is that cessation of intercourse in the malt trade, to be attributed to the poverty of Ireland?—I do not know that it can altogether be attributed to the poverty of Ireland; but I would say so far as this, that if we had an increased demand, we should be able to supply it from our own growth.

What is the price of labour at this moment, in Ireland?—I suppose the common labourer gets about one shilling a day.

How is that price, as compared with what the labourers get in time of war; what could a day-labourer earn, for the same labour in time of peace, compared with his labour in time of war?—When I am talking of a shilling a day for labour, I don't mean the labour performed in the cities. I presume the Committee, in its question, had reference entirely to agricultural labour; I am not quite a judge of it, but as far as I can judge, the agricultural labourer gets about one shilling a day.

Have the wages in Ireland been lowered lately?—I believe they are rather lower than otherwise; for the food of the people is so very cheap, and the farmers not being able to employ the labourers; there are thousands of labourers who would take less wages, if they could get employment.

Is there any alteration in the diet of the poor of Ireland; has any recent change taken place in that respect, or is the diet the same as in former years?—I have had no opportunity of knowing any thing to the contrary; their diet is very poor and very plain.

Is there any consumption of meat among them?—Certainly none of any importance.

Is there any consumption of bacon?—Very little, indeed.

Has the taking away of the supply of beef for the army and navy, had any material effect in the cultivation of Ireland, in the tendency to reduce the quantity of land in a state of pasturage?—There is a considerable quantity of land that was under pasture, that is now broken up in consequence, for arable land.

Is there any other manufacture in Ireland besides that of the linen manufacture?—Not that I know of, that is very considerable.

Then in point of fact, the employment of the population of Ireland, exclusively of those engaged in the linen trade, depends on agriculture?—Almost entirely, with the exception of the different local establishments.

There are manufactories of woollen cloths?—Yes, there are some, and I understand are rather increasing.

Is the distress of Ireland greater at this moment than it was in 1816?—No; I don't think it is; It was very great then.

Greater than the present, was it?—I think it was; the state of the poor is now better, provisions are so extremely cheap; they were never more so in the memory of any body; I believe potatoes sell so low in several parts as three halfpence a stone, of 14 lbs.; thousands of the poor live almost entirely on them.

Can you inform the Committee what are the internal regulations of the custom-houses in the different ports of Ireland respecting the admission of foreign corn; are you acquainted with their internal regulations respecting warehouses?—I understand some cargoes arrived after the ports were closed.

Is there any corn remaining in warehouses, of the importations into Ireland prior to the 14th of February 1819, at the time the ports were open?—There is some American flour, but no corn.

But are the regulations of the custom house such, that that American or any other foreign corn cannot get into fraudulent circulation?—I understand that the regulations have been violated.

The question put by the Committee is, whether corn admitted into Ireland under bond, can come into circulation fraudulently?—I did hear that a cargo was carried to

(17 April.)

to a particular port in Ireland, and that it got in after the ports were ordered to be shut; it was put under bond and got out; but by what means I cannot tell.

Do you know this of your own knowledge?—I do not; but I believe that is the fact.

What happened at Dundalk, with reference to the same point?—I understand a man imported a cargo into that port, and it was put under the King's lock, and I believe he contrived to get it out again.

And consume it?—I believe there is no doubt of it.

Upon what food do the poor of Ireland chiefly subsist?—Upon potatoes.

Any thing else?—Very little else.

Do they get any wheat bread?—No, they seldom think of it; they get some oat bread, but very little of that; I am not now speaking of the city of Dublin; when I talk of the poor of Ireland, I mean the peasantry in the country; the people of the city generally eat wheat bread; they hardly think of any other; oatmeal sometimes made into bread, but that they bake themselves.

To what causes do you attribute the very low prices of corn and potatoes?—I attribute the present low prices of corn to two very great harvests, one succeeding the other; we never had such a harvest in Ireland as the last year's harvest.

The harvests of 1819 and 1820?—Yes; the last harvest of all particularly.

Have you paid much attention to the effects of abundance on the prices of corn and potatoes?—Not particularly; I have no other observation to make on that subject, than that abundance generally produces a great reduction in prices.

But does it produce a greater reduction of prices than in proportion to the increase of quantity?—I do suppose it does.

Do you happen to have the prices of corn in Ireland for a series of years?—Yes, for many years.

Can you now give them in to the Committee?—No, I cannot; the Committee has them much more accurately in print, as laid before the House by order of Parliament.

Mercurii, 18^o die Aprilis, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Edward Solly;

Called in; and Examined.

WHERE do you live?—At present in London.

What business are you in?—I am a general merchant.

Are you in the habit of importing corn?—I was formerly established at Dantzic, where I had considerable concerns in the corn trade.

How long is that since?—I have left Dantzic about ten years, but I have resided in other parts of Prussia since, up to within three years ago.

Are you in the habit of importing corn into this country?—I continue to be acquainted with the corn trade.

State the nature of the corn trade from the Baltic?—The corn is brought down to the different ports, Dantzic, Elbing and Konigsberg, from the interior of Prussia and Poland.

From what distance may it come?—It comes from various distances; the furthest comes from the province of Galatia and the south of Poland.

Do you know the price of corn when purchased in those provinces?—The price varies; but the lowest price that is stated to be the necessary price for the grower of corn there, is about a dollar, a scheffel or 3 s. sterling the Prussian bushel.

What proportion does that bear to the Winchester bushel?—Fifty-six and a-half of their scheffels are equal to eighty-four bushels Winchester.

And three shillings is the price of their scheffel?—Yes; that is the most moderate price.

Three shillings is the average price when there is no particular demand or scarcity?—It is the lowest price.

What is the highest price?—The price has been very high in years of great demand for Britain.

Mr.
Edward Solly.

(18 April.)

Mr.
Edward Solly.

(18 April.)

Does not the price depend upon the demand rather than upon reference to the cost of the growth?—The price above the 3 s. depends upon the demand from abroad.

How high have you known that price to be?—I have known it 10 s. and 12 s. for the same measure.

The scheffel is pretty nearly one and a-half Winchester bushel?—Very near.

What is the general cost of bringing a quarter of wheat to Dantzic?—The expense of bringing it down to Dantzic from the interior, differs according to the province it comes from; it differs from about nine to twelve shillings a quarter; but I have known it as high as twenty.

Is it all brought by water carriage?—There is some distance of land carriage down to the river side.

What will be the average price of a quarter of wheat when there is no direct demand?—Thirty-five shillings Winchester; sixteen shillings is the average price in the country; there are then to be added the expenses of water carriage and landing, which would be about 12 s.; there is the expense of duty-tolls on the river, they amount to about 2 s. 6 d. a quarter; and there will be the expense of bringing it from the province to the river-side, which will make it come to about 1 s. 6 d. more; that would be altogether about 32 s.; at Dantzic, the expense of shipment from Dantzic would be about 3 s. making it 35 s. on board; the freight would be from 4 s. to 4 s. 6 d. from Dantzic to London.

What is the 3 s. for?—That is the expense of measuring it at Dantzic, putting it into the lighters and on board the ship, and a small duty upon the shipment, and it includes the commission to the merchant who ships it; this price, I have stated, is the very lowest; the present price is about 36 s. for the best wheat put on board.

Is that by the Winchester bushel?—By the Winchester quarter.

Is the freight paid on the Winchester bushel or upon their measure?—Generally upon the Winchester quarter measured out here in London; at least the English masters of ships are chartered so; they prefer that method.

What is the weight of Dantzic wheat?—Various; but the average is about fifty eight pounds the Winchester bushel; but it is very different in different years; the growth of last year is very light.

What further expenses are there upon it?—The expenses at London would be about 3 s. more into the granary.

Would that include all the expenses necessary to bring it to Mark lane?—Yes.

What is the Baltic wheat selling for at this time in England?—The only sale is for exportation; and the only demand at present is for the Mediterranean; for Italy, the price at which it has been selling, has been from thirty to thirty-four shillings; there has been wheat sold at lower prices; but it is Russian wheat and of inferior qualities.

What has been the price of that?—I have not had any personal experience; but I have been told, that the Riga wheat, which is the best of the Russian wheat, has cost from twenty-eight to thirty shillings delivered in London.

How are they able to sell their corn at this rate, if the cost has been as you have described?—They sell at a loss; it is necessity that obliges them to take that course.

Is the present price unusually low?—The average is, for it is only the very best wheat that fetches this price at Dantzic; and the bulk of the wheat, which is only of middling quality, does not fetch so high a price at present; wheat may be bought as low as four or five and twenty shillings.

Do you know whether the harvest has been very abundant in Prussia and Poland?—Not the last one, and the corn has suffered materially; it is of light weight and very much sprouted; they had remarkably rainy weather in the eastern provinces of Poland the whole of the summer and during the harvest time. The harvest of the year before was very abundant, and the quality of the wheat very fine.

If the English ports were open for the free importation of corn, at this moment, what rise do you think would take place in the price of wheat in the Prussian ports?—I should think about 15 s.

Which would make the price in the Prussian ports how much?—On board, 50 s. for the best wheat; they would make their calculation on obtaining 60 s. here for it.

Supposing the ports to be constantly open for the free importation of corn, do you think the price abroad, on the average, would be above or below 50 s. in the Prussian ports?—It would be regulated by the price in England.

What is your opinion of the effect which the demand under such circumstances, would have upon the price in those ports?—I think that the price would rise about 15 s. as already mentioned.

Although

Although the demand should be permanent?—Even then, the price would be regulated by the price here.

It is your opinion, that if all corn laws were abolished, and a free importation of corn permitted, that the price of corn in the Prussian ports would be about 50s.?—About 50s. at present, because the correspondent price in England, of 60s. would not admit of their being higher than 50s.

What do you think it would be on the average of ten years?—That must depend upon the price in England.

Have you not formed any opinion?—I must form my opinion on what the price would be in England.

Have you formed any opinion of what the price would be in England, under such circumstances?—I think, in the first instance, the price would be lowered; but that it would ultimately recover; because it would have the effect of raising the value of land, and the expense of cultivation on the continent; for they want their land for the cultivation of corn for cattle, and fuel for their own inhabitants. They have in Prussia, about eleven millions of inhabitants; and it contains sixty-seven millions of English acres, or five thousand square miles; and they require almost all the arable land to grow corn for their own inhabitants; the principal corn that is grown and consumed, is rye; and I question if they had to supply England with wheat corn, it would be in their power; they have not the soil; and I do not think they would be able to increase the quantity of wheat to any great amount in Prussia.

Have you formed any opinion of what would be the price of corn in England, in case an unrestricted trade in wheat to England were allowed, on the average of a few years?—I should think that the free importation would, in the first instance, affect the price of corn in England to the amount of 10 per cent; it might lower it as much; I calculate that from the quantity which I think might be brought into this country from the continent. The next effect would be that of raising the price on the continent equal to the price in England, which would raise the value of land and price of cultivation.

Taking into consideration all these circumstances, what do you think would be the average price of corn in England?—I do not think that it would ultimately be regulated by foreign importation, and therefore it would be difficult to say what price; that I consider must depend upon circumstances peculiar to England, on the abundance or deficiency of the harvests in England.

Have you not formed in your mind any stated price at which corn would be under those circumstances here?—No.

Can you tell the Committee the largest quantity of corn that has ever been exported from the Prussian ports in one year?—I have made an average of about five years, when the greatest quantity was exported, and that average was 57,000 lasts of wheat, at ten quarters and a half the last; those were the years from 1800 to 1805. The greatest years of exportation from the Baltic were 1801 and 1802, on to 1805.

If the ports in England were permanently open for the importation of corn, do you think we should annually import a quantity so large as that you have stated?—I think we should.

Do you think the quantity imported would be much larger than that?—I think in case the importation of corn from the Baltic was allowed at all times, that the Baltic and North of Europe could furnish, on the average, about a million of quarters of wheat annually; that is, upon the supposition that the price was to be as high as is calculated as necessary for the English farmer, if the average price was to be 80s.

Supposing the price of corn in England to be 60s. per quarter, what quantity of corn would be imported from the Baltic?—I should think the quantity would be about 700,000 quarters; in case of the price being 80s. the quantity could be increased to a certain extent as stated above, but not beyond that, on account of the necessary consumption of the foreign country itself; there will always be a limit.

Do you think, under the system of open ports and high prices, that so great an amount as two millions of quarters could be obtained from the Baltic?—I do not think two millions could be obtained.

Have you any statement of the prices of wheat in the Prussian ports for any number of years?—I could easily procure it and deliver it in.

[The Witness was directed to furnish the same.]

Mr.
Edward Solly.

(18 April.)

Is there much other corn exported from the Prussian ports besides wheat?—A good deal of rye, but it goes principally to Holland for the manufacture of Geneva; the proportion of rye that is grown to that of wheat, in Poland and Prussia, is about six times as much rye as wheat.

If a much larger supply was required from the Baltic for this country, would it not raise the price there independently of the prices in this country?—It would, certainly, raise the price; but it would always be with a view to the price in this country; it would be regulated by that.

If the price did not rise enough here, there would be no such importation?—No; there is a limit to the exportation.

At what amount do you place that limit?—I should state the amount at one million of quarters; and I found my opinion on this, that the quantity of land adapted to the culture of wheat is limited, so much of the soil is poor and sandy, there is a quantity of land necessary for the growth of rye for their own use, a quantity of land is absorbed in woods and forests necessary for their fuel as well as a branch of trade; all this leaves but a limited quantity of land for the cultivation of wheat.

There was a large importation of barley in the year 1818 or 1819; can you tell from whence that was principally derived?—Almost every port on the continent supplied part of it; but the smallest part came from Poland. It came from Flanders, Holland, and Hamburgh. The high prices here, brought it from every part. There is a good deal of barley grown in the neighbourhood of the Elbe; in Mecklenburgh, and in the Duchy of Magdeburg.

In the year 1800, when the barley of this country was completely spoiled in consequence of the rain that took place in the month of August, where were the importations from?—The principal importation was from the Elbe and from Holstein.

Do you remember the prices?—They were very high; but I cannot speak from memory.

Are you aware of any commission being sent out from the London brewers to purchase barley for the porter consumption of this metropolis?—Sir Robert Barclay was out at Hamburgh that year with such a commission.

Can you state to the Committee the price of barley at that period in the home market?—I cannot.

Martis, 1^o die Maii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

[*Mr. Solly delivered in the following Paper, referred to in his Evidence.*]

PRICES OF WHEAT AT DANTZIG.

YEARS	Fluctuations of Prices in Florins, p' Last.	Exchange.	PRICE in Sterling, p' W. Quarter.	Quantity of Lasts Exported; 10 Quarters and a half p' Last.	
	Florins.	Florins.			
1790 - - -	700 - - 500	25	53/4 - 38/	6,904	—
1791 - - -	470 - - 420	26	34/6 - 30/8	12,119	—
1792 - - -	440 - - 500	25	33/6 - 38/	14,001	1793
1793 - - -	500	25	38/	18,997	1794
1794 - - -	530	25 1/2	39/8	16,872	1795
1795 - - -	560 - - 900	24 - 21 1/2	44/6 - 80/	25,972	1796
1796 - - -	1,050 - - 560	22	82/8 - 48/7	26,873	1797
1797 - - -	450 - - 600	25	34/3 - 45/9	26,344	1798
1798 - - -	500	26	36/8	—	—
1799 - - -	550 - - 650	25 - 22	42/ - 56/	25,024	1799

Prices of Wheat at Dantzic—continued.

YEARS.	Fluctuations of Prices in Florins, p' Last.	Exchange.	PRICE in Sterling, p' W. Quarter.	Quantity of Lasts Exported; 10 Quarters and a half p' Last.	
	Florins.	Florins.			
1800 - - -	900 - 600 - 1,100	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	80/ - 53/4 - 97/6	41,443	In Dantzic money the Par at 24f.
1801 - - -	1,200 - - 800	22	104/ - 69/	36,242	
1802 - - -	800 - - 600	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	67/8 - 50/9	51,595	
1803 - - -	650	24	51/6	33,303	
1804 - - -	600 - - 900	25	45/9 - 68/6	42,216	
1805 - - -	1,200 - - 800	24	95/3 - 63/6	44,920	
1806 - - -	800 - - 840	24	63/6 - 66/8	5,874	
1807 } 1808 }	Siege of Dantzic.	—	—	—	
1809 - - -	500 - - 400	18	52/10 - 42/3	—	
1810 - - -	500 - - 400	17	46/6 - 37/2	19,135	During this period, in Prussian money, the Par 20f. to £.1. sterling.
1811 - - -	500 - - 400	15	63/6 - 50/10	4,884	
1812 - - -	360	14	49/	—	
1813 - - -	400	14	54/6	Siege of Dantzic.	
1814 - - -	400 - - 530	17	44/9 - 59/4	D°	
1815 - - -	400	18	42/3	—	
1816 - - -	400 - - 850	19	40/ - 85/3	13,600	
1817 - - -	1,000 - - 750	19	100/ - 75/3	21,000	
1818 - - -	660	18	70/	26,945	
1819 - - -	650	19	65/	11,800	
1820 - - -	420	21	38/	29,700	

James Conolly, Esquire; Again called in; and Examined.

YOU were asked, on your examination, respecting the power of this country to compete with America, in the article of flour in the general markets of the world; have you any thing to add to your answer upon that subject?—My object is to show the effect of the importations of American flour upon these countries; America possesses a prodigious advantage over us in respect of freight, so much so, that at my mills, forty-four miles from Dublin, which are very extensive, and from which there is a water carriage the whole of the way from the mill-door to Dublin, and which water carriage has cost at least 400,000 *l.* (the Grand canal goes for about thirty-three miles, and there is the Barrow navigation which takes up the remainder of it) notwithstanding that, flour comes from America to Liverpool at a lower freight than it can be put on board ship (from that mill) in Dublin.

At what rate of freight do you know that flour can come from America to Liverpool?—I have known it to come for half a dollar a barrel; it is not sent as an object of profit, in general, except when the ports are open; the ports have been shut two years since the 14th of February 1819, against foreign wheat and foreign flour; and by a return I have from Liverpool, of the six months ending the 31st of March 1820, the import was 22,170 barrels of flour; and in the six months in the succeeding year of the same period, it had increased double; it was 45,284, the ports being shut the whole of the time; it was, I presume, sent there waiting for a market.

To what market does it generally go?—To the West India Colonies, generally, I believe.

How much does half a dollar a barrel make upon the ton?—Eighteen shillings British a ton.

Are the tolls high, upon the canals to which you refer?—They are.

What are they a mile, by the ton?—I cannot precisely tell; it is either two pence or three pence a ton per mile; but, however, the conveyance is still cheaper than land carriage.

James Conolly,
Esq.

(1 May.)

James Conolly,
Esq.

(1 May.)

Is American flour cheaper in Liverpool, this year, than Irish flour?—Considerably cheaper.

Have not the Americans an advantage over Ireland, from the mode of packing their flour?—A considerable advantage; America has a considerable advantage over every other country in respect of flour, by having it packed in barrels; another advantage, it can be shipped on board a vessel with the most valuable merchandize, without any danger of injuring such merchandize.

Your flour is sent in sacks?—It is, in general; but if we export it to a foreign market, we would pack it into barrels.

Does not the circumstance of American flour coming to the United Kingdom, notwithstanding the expenses of freight, prove that American flour is cheaper in America, than Irish flour is in Ireland?—I do not think it does, for the reasons I have already mentioned to the Committee; I should not be surprized if there was a very considerable loss on the whole of the imports into Liverpool, which I have already stated.

Is it your opinion, then, that Ireland can now compete with America in the supply of flour to Europe?—Certainly not.

Do you happen to know what the price of American flour is in the money of that country?—I do not; but I understand the price is very low; it has been selling at Liverpool, at 22 s. a barrel, that is equal to about 30 s. a sack for the flour in London.

What could you afford to sell a barrel of Irish flour for?—About eight and twenty shillings British, exclusive of the cost of the barrel.

But if the price of American flour in Liverpool, is 22 s. it must of course be under 22 s. in America?—That does not follow, because it is not sent wholly as an object of profit; frequently with a view to procure freight for other articles.

Have you any reason to believe, that the price of flour in America is above 22 s. a barrel?—I cannot answer at present; but from the accounts I sometime since had heard, I should imagine it might be about that price.

But if it is 22 s. the barrel, it is still cheaper than a barrel of flour in Ireland?—No doubt of it.

What is the expense of sending a quarter of wheat from Dublin to Liverpool?—It is about six shillings a quarter, including the charges of sale, &c.

You stated in your evidence on the 17th of April, that the average price of the quarter of wheat in Ireland, was now 40 s. Irish money; is not that equal to 37 s. English money?—Just about that.

The price by the London Gazette of the quarter of wheat, that is the price in England and Wales, is 53 s. a quarter; how do you account for the difference between the price of Irish wheat and the price of English wheat, being a difference between 43 s. for the one, and 53 s. for the other; allowing six shillings for freight?—The quality tells the difference; I mentioned in my former evidence, that the average quality of corn between England and Ireland differed about three shillings a quarter; that is after the Irish had been prepared for export, and the preparation for export will amount to about seven and a half per cent at the present prices of corn; they vary in proportion according as it is dear or cheap.

Is the Irish barley much inferior to the barley of England?—Yes, it is very inferior; there is no article of grain that differs so much in quality from English corn as the article of barley.

Have you ever compared the Scotch barley and the Irish barley?—The Scotch barley is rather better; Irish in general is the inferior barley of the three.

There is some as good barley grown in Ireland as can be grown any where, is there not?—That is very trifling in comparison to the general mass.

Is it your opinion, that if American flour and Irish flour were subject to precisely the same freight, and were conveyed to any of the markets of Europe, that the Irish flour could there compete with the American flour?—It would not in European markets; I some years since had a great deal of American flour and have had my own manufacture at the same time, and our bakers frequently have given a preference to it against the American; but certainly the quality of it was as good as was made in Ireland, as second flour; but even so, if sent to a foreign market, the American would take the lead; we have the prejudice in favour of it to contend with.

Was not American flour allowed by the commissioners of customs to be imported about three years ago, and what was the consequence of that to the corn and flour of Ireland?—That was one of the severest blows that the millers of Ireland ever got; it ruined many families.

Was

(1 May.)

Was there any law to justify or authorize the importation of American flour at that period?—No; it was a violation of the law, and without giving any previous notice.

By what authority was the flour imported; are you quite sure it was by the order of the commissioners of customs?—No; I am sure it was not by the commissioners of customs; I believe it was done by the then government of the country.

You do not know by what order that flour was admitted?—No.

It was not by act of Parliament?—I don't know; the order for the admission was indefinite; certainly it was at the time well intended, but most unfortunate in its consequences.

Then in point of fact the effect of the order was to suspend the law?—Yes.

Did you ever hear of any act to indemnify the government for that order having been made?—When this took place, the harvest previous to it was the most calamitous that ever happened in the country; the produce was very bad, and did require the aid of foreign corn to mix with it; and it was on that principle, I presume, that the ports were opened to admit foreign flour; there was a prodigious quantity of American flour lying at Liverpool at the time, and a great deal on the passage from America to that port. Our corn begins to come in in September, if the harvest is early in the latter end of August; the millers having no idea of such an import being admitted, took in wheat from the farmers as usual; the ports were then open to foreign corn, and they knew they could get plenty to grind with their own to assist in manufacturing it; and so they would, but the ports being open to admit foreign flour, an inundation of American was poured into Ireland, which diminished the sale of Irish to such an extent, added to the reduction which took place in the prices, that many millers were materially injured and several totally ruined.

The acts for opening the ports of this country to foreign flour did not operate in Ireland?—No; it has been prohibited for years; no manufactured foreign corn is admissible into Ireland at any time.

In what part of the year was this order issued?—I cannot now recollect; it was early in the year.

Was Parliament sitting at the time?—It think it must; at the time that the ports for foreign corn were open, a great deal of English and Scotch manufactured flour was coming into Ireland; and when this vast import of American flour was poured in upon us, the Government saw the great injury the millers were labouring under, and they gave orders to the commissioners of the Custom House, to send out instructions to the different ports in the kingdom, to give notice that no more American flour should be received from England after some few, I believe six days, giving a greater latitude to America. The very next day after that order was given, it was found that a bill had passed in Parliament, enacting that the ports were to continue open to admit foreign flour till November; and immediately similar instructions were sent out counteracting the former orders till November, which had the effect of declining the the prices; so much that considerable quantities of that wheat and flour which was imported from England and Scotland were sent back.

Did the millers of Ireland make a remonstrance upon it?—They did; and it was in consequence of that remonstrance, that the order was given to prohibit the import.

Did they ever petition Parliament upon it?—No; I believe they only petitioned Government.

In your former evidence you have stated, that you would be perfectly satisfied with the present corn law, if it gave the protection which it professes to give; do you allude in that answer to the manner in which the averages are taken?—I do.

Have you read the bill now before the House?—I have.

Do you approve of that?—I do; as I think it will give ample and full protection to the agriculture.

The present corn law with the present bill for taking the averages will, you think, be a sufficient protection for Ireland?—I think it will.

Would you prefer in the place of the present law, a duty on the import of foreign corn to the amount of twenty shillings a quarter?—I would rather have the protection than have a duty.

Would you prefer the present corn law with the new bill for regulating the averages, to a protecting duty of twenty shillings a quarter on wheat?—I think it would be better.

Would it be better than thirty shillings?—If we are to judge according to the present prices in Europe it would be equal to that.

James Conolly,
Esq.

(1 May.)

Would it be better than a duty of forty shillings?—I think it is a more eligible protection than any duty; and of all others most likely to satisfy the people; I refer in my answer to Ireland only.

Do you think it a better protection than a permanent duty of forty shillings?—A permanent duty of forty shillings, would be a greater protection, undoubtedly.

But you do not think that 30 s. would?—I declare I cannot say; it must depend on the prices of corn in Europe; I should imagine 30 s. a very considerable protection.

Do you think 30 s. a quarter, would be an equal protection to the present corn law, with the new bill which you have seen?—On consideration, I have no hesitation in saying that it would.

Do you think 20 s. would?—It is very difficult to say, but I think would very nearly, as far as my mind carries me; it makes a very material difference paying down 20 s. on a quarter of corn or wheat, when it comes in, with all the other charges.

Upon the whole, if you had your choice to keep the present law with the new bill of averages, or to have a duty of 20 s. which should you prefer?—I should prefer the present law with the new averages; I confess I am no advocate for duty, notwithstanding that I think it would be most efficient, but as I think any duty would have the effect of endangering the perpetuating of the bill, this is my objection; I think twenty shillings might be a protection, and in general, probably adequate to the improved average.

If a corn bill had been passed in the year 1813, that is, two years before the present corn laws passed, giving a protecting price of 80 s. what general effect would that have had upon the agricultural interest of Ireland and England?—It certainly must have a tendency to increase the agriculture in proportion to the protection; the more you protect it, the more it will increase, I should imagine.

Did these countries suffer any inconvenience from such a bill not being passed at that period?—I am satisfied they did; the longer it has been protracted since the peace, the more the country must have been sustaining a loss, more or less, during that period.

It being the year previous to the peace of 1814, was it not very desirable, that such a bill should have passed before the trade with the continent was open?—No doubt of it; we have been suffering ever since in consequence.

Was there not a great deal of suffering on the part of the agricultural interest, the miller's interest, and other persons connected with the corn trade, between the years 1813 and 1815?—The last three or four years have been the worst years in the corn trade that I recollect.

Was not there great suffering between 1813 and 1815?—I do not now recollect.

If Ireland is nearly able to compete with America in the growth of corn, and the particular disadvantages which she experiences in foreign markets, arise from the greater charge of freight, why should Ireland require any other protection for her agriculture, than a duty equal to this difference of freight?—Ireland would have a character to establish; there is a prejudice against her manufacture that would operate very much, until the prejudice be removed.

Then if it were not for this prejudice, she would require no other protection than one equal to the difference of freight?—I should imagine not; I think that is a very fair conclusion.

Can you form any opinion of what duty would be equivalent to the difference of freight?—I cannot.

Is not the corn that is imported into this country from Ireland, for the most part paid for by English manufactures imported into Ireland?—I cannot answer that question; but certainly the English manufacturers must receive a considerable benefit from it.

Do not you think, that the great quantity of absentee rent drawn from Ireland to this country, is one of its great disadvantages and one of its great misfortunes?—It must be a great misfortune to the country, no doubt of it.

Mr. John Brodie, of Scoughall; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
John Brodie,
of Scoughall.

(1 May.)

YOU occupy a farm in East Lothian?—Yes, I occupy several farms in East Lothian.

At what time did you enter into the lease of any of those farms?—The last one was in 1812, the former ones were older leases, some of them forty years ago.

What is the extent of the last farm you entered into lease for in 1812?—670 Scotch acres, the Scotch acre being one-fifth more than the English.

Had

(1 May.)

Had you possessed it before?—No.

Do you know what increase of rent there was on your taking it?—The rent was rather more than doubled when I entered it.

What is the rent of that farm now?—2,900 *l*.

Did you, in the early part of the occupation of that farm, expend any considerable sum of money in buildings or other improvements upon that farm?—It required about 5,000 *l*. to put a proper stock upon it; and I expended about 3,000 *l*. more in buildings and other improvements.

For what period was the lease?—Twenty-one years.

Was it upon a calculation of the value of wheat that you took that farm?—Yes; the general calculation at that time was, that we should have 42 *s*. a boll, or four guineas a quarter.

Have your losses been considerable under that lease since the end of the war?—Since the crop of 1814 the loss must be very considerable; a great proportion of it is very fine land; the loss has not been so great on that sort of land as on the inferior, but there has not been one penny profit, notwithstanding the great outlay; there has rather been a loss than otherwise.

No return for the money expended upon the farm?—No return.

Has any reduction of rent been made by your landlord?—None till this season; it is proposed to give 10 per cent, but there has been none allowed.

Do you think, with a reduction of 10 per cent, that farm will repay you your outlay, supposing the present prices to continue?—If we were insured 36 *s*. a boll, a reduction of 10 per cent would but just barely pay; at the present rates of 56 *s*. a quarter, it would require thirty per cent to pay; I consider that about our present average in East Lothian, 56 *s*. or 28 *s*. a boll.

What is the general state of the farmers in the part of the country from which you come?—Their general state is, that all those who have taken farms at the high rates, either live upon the capital or depend upon their landlords for reduction. Report says, that great arrears are lying over. Some landlords have given liberal reductions to enable them to go on; and some few have been made bankrupt.

Do you consider the tenantry in East Lothian to be in a better situation than those in other parts of Scotland where the land is not so good?—I cannot answer that question positively, but I imagine we are fully better than in other parts of Scotland.

Has there been much inferior land brought into cultivation in that part of Scotland within these last twenty years?—Yes; a very considerable part.

Has that been done generally at the expense of the landlord, or of the tenant taking a lease for a number of years?—Mostly at the expense of the tenant.

Have any of those lands been thrown again out of cultivation within these four or five years; have they been turned into grass?—I do not think there has been much yet, but that bad land must be returned into grass; it is paying nothing.

How high will it be necessary for wheat to be, to prevent that land being turned into grass?—The very inferior soils in Scotland are mostly cultivated in rearing oats; the average of grain, therefore, must be calculated from oats.

How high must oats be, then, to prevent land going out of cultivation?—I imagine from 30 *s*. to 32 *s*. a quarter.

What is the average price of oats just now, in East Lothian?—It is 15 *s*. per boll; four bolls are three quarters.

When oats are at 32 *s*. a quarter, how high ought wheat to be?—I think, nearly 84 *s*. to correspond.

Has the price of agricultural labour in Scotland diminished since the war?—Yes, it has.

What was the average price of day labour previous to the war, between 1785 and 1793, in East Lothian?—I think, from 1785 to 1793, it rose progressively; it 1785 it might be about 5 *s*. a week.

What was it in 1795?—I think it would then be 9 *s*. a week.

During the war how high did it rise?—It rose to 15 *s*. and 18 *s*. a week, for good hands.

What is the present average?—About 10 *s*.

Are there many labourers in your part of Scotland at present out of employment?—Except in the winter months, I think they are generally employed; in the winter months they have a difficulty in finding work.

Are there any manufactures in your part of Scotland?—Very few; hardly any.

The population is not large in that part of Scotland?—No, it is not.

Mr.
John Brodie,
of Scoughall.

(1 May.)

Have you heard there any complaints or surmises, that foreign corn has been abstracted from the warehouses, and brought into the market?—We all surmise that there must be something of that, but we have no knowledge of any fact of the kind.

Is it your opinion that the present law, if properly executed, would be an adequate protection to the farmer?—We have always thought the price of oats was too low.

With the exception of oats?—We would require the prices to be kept just about the import price, but oats would require to go higher.

To what amount?—I think it would require to be protected to the length of from 30 s. to 32 s.

Do you think the present law, with the addition to the oats, would be better for the farmer than a duty on import of 20 s. a quarter on wheat, and other grain in proportion?—I am certainly not master of the question, but we are all afraid of a duty, unless it was more than that.

Is it the opinion of the farmers in your part of the country, that the warehousing system which at present exists, is prejudicial to the interests of the farmer?—I think we are generally of that opinion.

In what way does it act to your prejudice?—The corn merchant has laid out his capital in foreign grain, and filled his warehouses with that foreign grain; of consequence he has neither room nor capital to speculate in our grain, at the present low prices.

Supposing the warehousing was excluded from this country, could he not do the same in a foreign country?—I think that no man who understands the corn business would risk keeping the corn where he could not see it; where he could not have it under his own eye, to see that it was properly kept.

Would he not speculate in the grain that he thought would bring him the greatest profit?—I have no doubt he would; but there would be such a danger in having his grain spoiled, supposing it was not under his own eye, that I do not think he would risk his capital upon it. Grain is an article that spoils and loses its quality, if not properly looked after.

What is the average rent of the land in East Lothian per acre?—It would be difficult to answer that question, it varies so much; it is from 7 l. the Scottish acre, down to 20 s.; a great deal of land will not bring that money, that is pasture land that cannot be brought into cultivation.

You have no poor rates or tithes to pay besides?—We have no tithes of course, nor poor rates, except in the neighbourhood of towns, such as Haddington and Dunbar, the poor's rate come perhaps to one or two per cent on the rents, for the farmer to pay, the landlord always pays one-half.

What do you call a fair average crop of wheat on land in your occupation?—On land the rent of which is six to seven pounds, it ought to be five quarters the Scottish acre, equal to four quarters on the English acre.

Is it your opinion, that the warehousing system would not be injurious to the British farmer if it did not absorb the capital that you think would otherwise be employed in speculating in British corn?—I am not able to answer that.

The only reason you have given to the Committee for thinking that the warehousing system was injurious to the British farmer is, on account of its absorbing British capital?—And taking up his warehouses.

Is there any other reason why you think that system injurious to the British farmer?—I do not think of any others; there may be other reasons that do not occur to me.

What is the lowest price of wheat which, in your opinion, would be a remunerating price, if you paid no rent whatever for your land?—Calculating the same expense of cultivation to continue, it would require a calculation that my memory will not at present furnish me with; I think, on the best land, every reduction of five per cent is equal to four shillings a quarter, upon the best lands, so far as my memory goes at present, but I am not prepared for the question.

What do you think would be the remunerating price of wheat, under the circumstances of no rent being paid, from the best land?—Land that will yield six pound of rent per Scots acre, when upon an average of crops wheat is worth eighty-four shillings per quarter, and other farm produce in proportion, will continue to pay rent till wheat comes so low as thirty-six shillings per quarter, at the same rate that which is worth only one pound per acre, will not pay any rent when wheat comes to seventy shillings, and land of three pounds value will cease to pay rent when wheat comes to fifty or fifty-four shillings, and in proportion to the different qualities of soil; land highly improved will pay rent at lower rates, till the improvement is exhausted, but in that case the farmer will be losing the profit he ought to derive from his improvement.

What

What is the present situation of the labourer with wages of 10s. is it better or worse than it was when wages were 15s. or 18s. during the war?—He is not so well off by much.

The fall in the price of provisions has not been so great as the fall in wages?—It is not provisions, but it is other things that affect him.

The prices of all things purchased by the labourer have not fallen so much as the price of labour?—Except provisions, nothing else has fallen.

Do the labourers of East Lothian live on wheaten bread?—Very little; they live on mixed bread.

You have said that if oats were permanently at 32s. per quarter, you think land would not go out of cultivation, would it go out of cultivation if they were at 25s. a quarter?—There would be almost nothing to the landlord at that price, from the inferior soils.

You could afford to pay the landlord nothing out of that?—The present rents would be kept up at 32s. for oats, even on the inferior soils.

What, in your opinion, is the general reduction of rent of farms now to let, from what they would have given in 1810 or 1812?—I was trying to make a calculation upon that, and I find that the best land would require from twenty to twenty-five per cent reduction; middling land, I think, would require 30 to 35 per cent and the inferior soils fully 50 per cent deduction; on some of the very bad soils, the present prices leave hardly any rent at all.

That is, supposing the present prices to continue?—Yes.

Mr. John Brodie, of West Fenton; Called in; and Examined.

DO you occupy a farm in East Lothian?—I occupy two farms.

You are treasurer to the East Lothian Agricultural Society?—I am.

When did you take those farms on lease?—The one that I live upon, West Fenton, I entered to in 1801, the other I entered to in 1814, by the death of my father; I succeeded him in two farms in that year, one of them had only three years of the lease to run, which was let to another person, the other was on a longer lease, it had been lately renewed before my father's death.

For what period were those leases?—Twenty-one years.

For the farm which you took in 1801, what was the rent paid per acre?—About 48s. between 47s. and 48s.

What was the rent previous to that?—It was rather more than doubled, on my taking.

Did you expend any capital at the commencement of your lease, upon that farm, in erecting houses, or otherwise?—Not much in erecting houses, but I lost a great deal from my farm being in bad order at the beginning, and on other improvements.

Has that farm been a losing concern for the last five or six years?—No, I do not think it has; had there not been a great deal of capital laid out upon it previous to those bad years, it would not have been a good concern.

Would that farm continue to give the present rent which you pay for it, supposing the present prices of agricultural produce to continue as they are now?—Perhaps it might, owing to the superior condition it is in at present, from that in which I took it; for one article alone, I have brought in manure from Leith and Edinburgh, and paid upwards of 3,000 l. for it, besides the carriage, which may amount to one-third part more, and owing to its being in superior condition than it was when I entered it, it may give the same rent yet, or perhaps more.

What do you consider is the general fall of rent of farms taken in 1810 or 1812?—About 20 per cent, I think, to take them at the present prices.

Have the rents in East Lothian been generally paid within the last two or three years?—That is a thing I am not altogether acquainted with; it is understood that there are a great many arrears.

Have any reductions been made by the landlords generally?—Not generally; a few have, and some of them have been very liberal.

Do you think the tenants in general, have been paying their rent latterly out of their capital?—I think they have.

Do you consider that the tenantry in East Lothian are in a better situation at present, than those in other districts of Scotland with which you are acquainted?—I think they have not suffered so much as in other districts.

Has the price of labour diminished much within these last five or six years?—About one-third, or rather more; about thirty per cent.

Mr.
John Brodie,
of Scoughall.

(1 May.)

Mr.
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of West Fenton.

(1 May.)

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John Brodie,
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(1 May.)

Do you consider that the labourers with their present wages, are as well off as they were the latter years of the war, with their higher wages, and the higher prices of grain?—I should hardly think they are.

The prices of clothing and other things they use, have not fallen in the same proportion as grain?—No.

Is the food of the labourer in your part of the country, wheaten bread, or not?—A great proportion wheaten bread now.

Do they use potatoes much?—Yes.

Is oaten bread used much?—Not much as bread; it is used as porridge.

What are the present wages of the labourers?—About 10 s. a week; some prime good labourers have a little more; some perquisites.

Ploughmen, and those sort of servants, are usually paid by different allowances?—In kind, we call it.

A certain portion of food, and a certain portion of land for potatoes?—Yes, and a cow.

Any part in money?—No, no part in money, in general cases.

Do you know of any of the farmers in your district who have become bankrupts?—A great many more than I ever knew before.

State the way in which your labourers are paid?—My servants get twelve bolls of oats, three bolls of barley, two bolls of beans or pease, a cow kept, a peck of linseed sown, that is, ground to sow it upon, three bolls of potatoes, besides other perquisites; victuals in harvest and hay time, and an allowance when he goes abroad with his carriages. In some districts of the country they pay money, but we prefer to pay them in kind; we reckon that our servants keep their families better clothed and better fed, than when they get money.

Do you give them this quantity whether the prices of barley and oats be high or low?—Yes.

Is it your opinion that the present law respecting the importation of foreign corn, if properly executed, would be an adequate protection to the farmer?—Yes, I think so, with the exception of oats; I think the import price of oats is too low.

What ought to be the import price of oats?—Thirty-two shillings I think would indemnify the grower.

Do you think that the present law would be better for the farmer than a fixed duty on importation of the different sorts of grain?—Yes.

Must it not depend upon the amount of that duty?—Yes a great deal would depend upon the amount of that duty; but when the foreigner needs money he would send his wheat to this country, and we might get it when he is losing by it.

But under the present law, when the ports are open, he can do the same?—Yes, certainly.

When the ports are open under the present law, there is no limit to the quantity of corn which may be brought into the country; is not the injury arising from this circumstance greater than what would arise from the sale of foreigners to this country occasionally under permanent duty?—That is a question which I am hardly able to answer; I think it would require a very high duty were we to be protected in the same manner as we are now.

Would you not prefer a permanent duty of 50 s. on the importation of wheat, to the present corn laws?—Yes, I would.

Would you prefer a duty of 40 s. to the present corn laws?—I am not certain as to that; that is matter of opinion to which I cannot answer without consideration; I think 50 s. would be better than the present corn law.

That opinion is given on the supposition that foreign wheat can be brought into this country for about 30 s a quarter?—Yes, I understand that it can; I may be wrong in that.

If it could not be brought in under 50 s. then you would think 30 s. an adequate protecting duty?—Yes.

Do not you think that a steady price, although not very high, is more beneficial to the farmer than alternate very high and very low prices?—Alternate very high and very low prices are very hurtful.

Do not you think, that under a system of duties, the price probably would be more steady than under the present law?—I am not able to answer that.

Is it your opinion, that frauds have been committed under the warehousing system?—I have no access to know; it is generally believed that frauds have been committed.

Is

Is it your opinion, that the allowing the warehousing of foreign corn is injurious to the farmer?—Yes.

For what reason?—Because a great deal of the merchant's capital, as well as the manufacturer's, is employed in the purchase of foreign corn; whereas, could it not be warehoused in this country, they would be very averse to trust it in foreign countries; perhaps it might be done, but not to the same extent.

If there were then plenty of money in this country for the purpose of speculating in British corn, you would not think the warehousing system at all injurious to you?—I think the warehousing system will always take away a part of the capital that would be employed in the purchase of home produce.

That is your opinion; but, if the circumstances were different from your opinion, then there would be no injury to the British farmer?—Certainly.

Do you not think the British farmer is injured by the great importations of corn from Ireland?—Yes, I do.

What do you think you could have let the farm for in 1812 and 1813, which you took in 1801?—I could not have let it, unless the proprietor had given me leave; supposing I had his leave, it would have advanced, perhaps, 20 per cent or more, but I do not know exactly; I have not turned my mind to that; taking the order that it was in, along with the advance upon rents and the depreciation of money at that time.

At what deduction do you think you could now let the farm which you entered to in 1814?—I do not know at what I could let it; it is a losing business to me; I cannot make the rent out of it.

What deduction of rent would you require to go on with that farm, supposing the present prices to continue?—I should require 20 per cent to be paid for my labour and capital employed.

Is it your opinion that the present low prices of corn will continue?—We are always in expectation that prices will be better; but that is matter of opinion.

Have not the crops been very abundant this last year?—The crop in Scotland was very abundant last year.

Was the crop of every kind of grain abundant in Scotland last year?—Yes,

Throughout Scotland?—Yes, in my neighbourhood; I cannot speak to the west country.

Was the crop of the year before, under or above an average crop?—That was rather above an average crop too.

Do you not attribute a part of the fall in the price of corn to the great abundance?—I attribute the present low prices, in a great measure, to the importation of oats in last August.

You think that importation affected the price of wheat also?—Yes.

Although that may be one cause, do you not think that the great abundance of the last harvest was another cause?—Certainly.

Do you not think that prices fall more than in proportion to the increased quantity arising from abundant crops?—Yes.

Have you formed any calculation of the proportion in which prices fell compared with quantity?—No, I never have.

What is the lowest price of wheat which you think a remunerating price?—We generally calculate upon 80 s. a quarter as the lowest price at which we can cultivate land in the best manner, and at the present rents and expenses.

Have the expenses, besides labour, the general outlay of the farm, in carpenters and smiths and other tradesmen's bills, fallen much within these last three or four years?

—No, they have not much; they had not a good trade of it, they alledged when the prices of grain were high and during the war, and they now tell us they make their things better; but it is merely that they have got a little better business.

Did not their prices rise during the war?—Yes; but not so much as to remunerate them as they inform us.

Do you not expect that the necessary expenditure of the farmer will very considerably diminish?—Certainly; it must diminish with his means.

Will it not diminish from the lower price of iron and other things necessarily used by the farmer?—They certainly ought to fall.

Do you not expect that they will fall?—Yes.

What do you think would be a remunerating price for wheat on the best farm you have, if you paid no rent whatever for it?—It would take 50 s. a quarter upon my best farm; on inferior lands it would take more.

Is your land some of the very best in Scotland?—By no means.

Mr.
John Brodie,
of West Fenton.

(1 May.)

Are there lands on which corn would be grown if no rent were paid, still lower than 50 s. a quarter?—Yes; I think there are.

Can you say how much lower?—No; I could not give it a name.

It would depend on whether the expenses of cultivation diminished?—Yes; if the expenses of cultivation diminished very much, that would make a difference.

Do you think any land is now going out of cultivation in Scotland?—Yes; in the inferior soils, certainly.

If corn were to continue at the present prices, a great deal would go out?—Yes; and by that means a great deal of capital would be lost to the country.

Would it not have the effect of raising the price of corn?—I do not know that it would; a great many more labourers would go out of employ.

Would it not diminish the supply of corn?—Perhaps it might, to a certain extent.

Would it not greatly diminish the supply of corn?—I think it would; at the same time, a great many people employed in agriculture now, either must emigrate to other countries, or continue here without employment.

Would it not diminish the supply?—Certainly.

Then if the demand continued the same, must not the price naturally rise?—Of course.

Then the situation of those farmers who continued cultivating their land, would be improved?—Most likely; but there is hardly any farm of good land, which has not inferior land belonging it.

Do you think there are any other means by which the price of corn could be raised, but by diminishing the supply or increasing the demand?—No.

Has the accommodation from the country banks in Scotland, very much diminished within the last five or six years?—It has diminished, but not in a great degree.

There is no difficulty in getting discounts from the bank, by persons of good credit, and with good capital?—None.

There is no complaint of the want of circulation of currency?—No.

Do you think the stocks of corn in hand, are large in Scotland now?—Yes, they are.

Much larger than usual at this time of the year?—Yes; there have been few speculators in corn this year; and the farmers are the principal holders.

Is there any foreign corn in the market in Scotland, not warehoused?—Yes, there is some at Leith; very little indeed.

Is there much foreign corn understood to be warehoused there?—I do not think there is much in Scotland.

Do you know the reason, why that foreign free corn has not been sold till this time?—No, I do not.

Has there been foreign free corn in the market ever since the ports were last open?—I believe so.

Within your recollection, have any two successive harvests in Scotland, been equally abundant with those of 1819 and 1820?—Yes, I think there have; about 1805 and 1806, we had very abundant harvests in Scotland.

Not since?—Not generally, since, in Scotland.

Did the prices fall much in those years?—There were good high prices at that time.

Mercurii, 2^o die Maii, 1821.

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM STURGES BOURNE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Alexander Auldjo, Esq.

Called in; and Examined.

*Alexander Auldjo,
Esq.*

(2 May.)

WHAT is your profession?—I was a merchant in Canada, for upwards of thirty years.

Are you acquainted with the effects which have been produced on the markets for grain in Canada, by the passing of the last corn bill?—It has had the effect of depressing the price of grain very much; since it was known that the ports were shut, wheat fell from five shillings per bushel to four shillings.

The

(2 May.)

The state of the law is, that when wheat is at or above the price of 67 s. wheat may be imported from Canada?—Yes; not when it is under that by the bill of 1815.

Since the price has been below 67 s. the fall you speak of has taken place?—It has.

Do you know at what period it was, that the prices fell in this country below 67 s.?—I think in the month of August or September in the last year.

Did a large proportion of the crop of last year shipped from Canada, arrive in this country after the fall in the price of wheat, so that it could not be admitted?—Certainly; a considerable quantity.

Does any grain so shipped, now remain in the warehouses of this country?—Certainly; I cannot speak exactly to the quantity, but it was considerable; it remains at this time, under bond, both wheat and flour.

Can you speak nearly as to the quantity?—I cannot; there is some in Liverpool, in London, in Leith, and in Glasgow.

Can you state what is the amount of charges incurred, upon the bringing wheat and flour from Quebec to this country, per quarter and per barrel?—The freight being very low now, the expense is very much reduced; but I should consider, taking in the freights, the insurance which is covered by the charter, and the risk which is uncovered from being a perishable article, that it may be from 13 s. to 15 s. a quarter on wheat; and I should say about 6 s. 6 d. per barrel for flour.

Are those the whole expenses from the shipping at Quebec to the bringing to the market of this country?—They are.

What prospect is there of the proprietors of such grain finding any market for it, if the ports should continue shut by reason of the average continuing under 67 s.?—I see no prospect of any market for it.

What is the value of a quarter of wheat and a barrel of flour at Quebec?—The wheat was I think shipped at about 5 s. a bushel, that is about 40 s. a quarter; and flour according to the quality, from 22 s. to 25 s. a barrel.

What proportion do those prices bear to the prices of former years?—Very low, generally speaking; our wheat should be at perhaps fifty per cent higher than that, and I have known it a great deal more; I have known it nearly 70 to 75 per cent; but generally speaking, it may be 50 per cent higher than that.

Since when has the fall taken place?—The fall to the present price has taken place principally within these few years.

To what cause do you attribute that fall?—I can attribute it to no other cause but the low price, or the being excluded from this market the moment it was known that the ports were like to be shut in this market, that instant the prices fell.

That cause could have had no operation excepting lately?—Not till lately; the great fall has taken place only lately.

Since when?—Only in the month of November last, after it was known that the ports were shut.

How great was that fall?—It fell from ten-pence to a shilling a bushel at once.

What is the present value of Canada wheat in bond?—I can speak only relatively to that which I consider wheat of the same quality which has been sold out of bond, I should consider from 30 s. to 32 s. a quarter.

What were the average prices of wheat in the markets of Canada, last year?—From about 5 s. to 5 s. 6 d. a bushel.

What has been the average quantity of wheat and flour exported from Quebec, in the last five years and the last twenty years?—In the last five years, I think the average may be stated at from 20,000 to 23,000 quarters of wheat, and about 25,000 barrels of flour; I cannot speak so far back as twenty years.

Is there any prospect of the quantity of wheat increasing rapidly in Canada, if encouragement is given to the cultivators of land by opening the markets in this country free from all restriction?—The increase must be very gradual, in Lower Canada in particular; in Upper Canada the increase will be greater, because the population is increasing fast in that country.

Is not the quality of wheat in Lower Canada, very much inferior to English grain, from the circumstance of its being spring wheat?—Certainly it is.

By how much inferior?—I should consider it to be inferior at least 6 s. a quarter; it is lighter, and there is more husk upon it; it does not yield so well.

What are the expenses of sending wheat and flour down from Upper Canada to Quebec, per quarter and per barrel, and the expenses previous to shipment?—I should consider, that from Upper Canada to Quebec, it may be called from 12 s. to 14 s. the quarter of wheat, and about 6 s. 6 d. per barrel for flour.

What are the expenses incurred on a quarter of wheat and a barrel of flour, the

Alexander Auldjo,
Esq.

(2 May.)

produce of Lower Canada, previous to shipment?—About 6 s. a quarter, and about 2 s. I should think, for flour.

What would be the consequence to the trade of Canada this year and in future years, if the markets for grain and flour in this country, should be shut to the Canadian grower, by the average continuing under 67 s.?—There would be a total impossibility of their paying for their goods; they have hardly any other market.

You mean to say, that wheat and flour are the principal means, if not the only means, by which the consumer in Canada can pay for supplies of British manufacture, which he is compelled, under the colonial system, to receive exclusively from this country?—They are certainly the principal means; there are other means, but those are the principal means.

What are the other articles exported from Canada to this country?—Lumber is an article of export, from Canada, to a considerable amount, but the recent restrictions will interfere with it; there is also the exportation of furs, but those, in future, will go from Hudson's Bay, so that that is completely done away with, or, at least, four-fifths of them must go that way.

In lumber, you include the timber trade?—Yes, I do.

Must not any plan of admitting wheat according to the average price it may bear in this market, be productive of serious inconvenience and uncertainty to the Canadian merchant, from the great interruption occasioned by the seasons in the navigation of the river St. Lawrence?—Most undoubtedly; the river St. Lawrence is shut for six months in the year, and it may so happen in that time, that the ports may be open here, and shut again, without our having had an opportunity of taking advantage of it.

Have the goodness to state the reasons why the increase of the growth of wheat, would be very gradual in Canada?—In general, the Canadians are but indifferent farmers, and their lands are mostly reduced, from being long settled.

Are not they clearing new lands?—Very little in Lower Canada.

Were not the merchants who sent the corn you have spoken of, to this country, aware of the law that existed here?—They were aware of it, certainly, but they expected that the ports might be opened again in the month of February or in the month of May, and therefore they shipped upon the risk, certainly; several cargoes arrived, and one or two arrived at Liverpool the very morning the ports were shut; every interest was made here, but it could not be admitted.

Are you aware what the average price of wheat was in Canada, previous to the war, twenty-five or thirty years ago?—I cannot tell.

Do you know, whether it increased much since 1793?—Certainly; at times it was very much increased; but the crops in Canada are very uncertain, from the nature of the climate; we have never had any very large crops; I think in the time I was there, I never knew but one year in which they had what might be called a large crop.

Does not the bill which is at present in Parliament, still give a very considerable protection to the wood of Canada?—There is no doubt the bill gives a protection to the wood; but I look upon it, that that protection is in a great measure diminished, from the distance that they have to bring it.

If the restrictions upon the import of corn were to be taken off, would it not also be just to take off those prohibitions upon wood?—I do not know that it would so much; and I will state my reason for it, that I think corn is the more natural production of the country, and is more diffused than timber; timber is more confined, because, give a farmer a good price, it circulates through the country, and he takes off a greater quantity of goods, and a greater quantity of West India produce; it is astonishing how much more goods you will sell in that year when we have an export, than when we have no export.

Why should the consumer of wood in this country be taxed for the purpose of protecting the growers in Canada, more than the growers of corn in this country be protected against the growers of corn in Canada?—I look upon it, that the protection is as much for the protection and employment of the shipping, as for the protection of that country; for when you consider that the price of timber in that country is not more than one fourth, certainly not more than one third, while the charges of the British shipping are two-thirds; it is as much a protection to the British shipping, as to them.

Supposing the principle of the Lords report had been adopted, would the same quantity of wood have come to this country, as will now?—Certainly not.

Would that have injured the interests of Canada?—Certainly it must; it is not merely disposing of the wood, but shipping brings money into the country, and employs a great number of people; of course, it is for the interest of the country.

Supposing

Supposing it was proposed to make the trade, in both wood and grain, free; that no protection should be afforded to Canadian wood; and that no protection should be afforded to the British corn, would that be an advantage or a disadvantage to Canada?—If you give them no protection over foreigners, it would be a disadvantage, I conceive, certainly.

Supposing the corn trade was free, and that no protection was given to the wood trade from Canada?—It would certainly be an advantage to Canada; there would be a greater advantage to Canada in giving a free entrance to her corn, than to her wood; and the country, on the great scale, would be benefited.

Do you imagine, that under those circumstances, the wood of Canada would compete with the wood of the Baltic?—It cannot compete in this instance, because the wood from the Baltic can go cheaper.

Then no wood could come under those circumstances?—Not under those circumstances certainly.

Would the annihilation of the timber trade from Canada, be compensated by a free trade with Great Britain in corn?—I doubt that altogether, because the export of corn is so very uncertain and so very small that perhaps the advantages would not compensate for the loss of the other.

What are the comparative prices of the wheat of Canada with the wheat of the United States?—The wheat of the United States is much better than the wheat of Canada; it is at least six shillings to eight shillings a quarter better, it is all autumn wheat; winter wheat and the Lower Canada wheat is all spring wheat and of course it is lighter and there is more husk upon it; it does not flour so well.

Is the difference of the price proportioned to the difference of the quality of the respective wheats?—I should consider American wheat cheaper at six shillings more than Canada wheat.

If capital was supplied in sufficient quantity to the farmers of Canada, could the quantity of corn raised there for exportation be doubled or trebled at the present prices, and afford the usual profit to the farmer?—I do not think on any scale whatever it could be doubled; I have no idea that that is possible.

What could prevent its being doubled, supposing the farmer had sufficient capital to raise the corn?—The great population is in Lower Canada, they are all French, and are very much attached to their own soil, they have been working the soil for a hundred and fifty years, and it is very much exhausted; and I do not think any great increase can be expected from that circumstance; they are bad farmers.

How could the corn of the United States be prevented being sent to this country as the produce of Canada?—There might be certificates of produce; I am confident that the corn cannot be exported from Canada legally.

It has been asserted, that United States timber has been brought into this country as Canadian?—Yes; because there is no law to prohibit that.

Hart Logan, Esq. Called in; and Examined.

WHAT is your profession?—I am a Canada merchant.

Have you resided long in Canada?—Upwards of twenty years.

How long is it since you left Canada?—I left Canada in the year 1814.

You carried on the trade of a merchant while in Canada?—Yes.

Have you had any particular experience of the effects produced in the markets for grain in Canada by the passing of the last Corn Bill, the average at which importation of wheat was permitted being fixed by that Act at 67 s.?—The first effect of that Act took place on the 15th of November last; previously to that period it had no effect, because the average was always above 67 s.

What was the effect produced by the price falling below 67 s.?—The effect was a very great reduction in value of the article in Canada.

How much did wheat fall in consequence?—Wheat fell from 5 s. 6 d. to 4 s. 2 d. a bushel.

Did a large proportion of the crop last year shipped from Canada, on advice that the average exceeded 67 s. arrive subsequent to the fall of the average under that price?—The effect, as I said before, was not felt until after the 15th of November; consequently a great number of ships could not have arrived, I suppose to the extent of twelve or fourteen cargoes; I speak without having any positive proof of the exact number.

Does any corn so shipped remain now in the warehouses?—Yes, I suppose to the extent I have now mentioned.

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Esq.

(2 May.)

How many quarters would those cargoes be equal to?—I should suppose about 20,000 quarters; but this I say without having any positive data to go by.

What is the amount of charges incurred in bringing wheat and flour to this country from Quebec, per quarter and per barrel?—I should suppose the expense on a quarter of wheat would be from 12 s. to 14 s.; and on a barrel of flour, from 7 s. to 8 s.

What prospect have the proprietors of the grain now warehoused, of finding any market for it, if the ports should continue shut by reason of the average continuing under 67 s.?—I see no prospect whatever.

Is there no prospect of their exporting it to other countries?—I understand that there has latterly been a demand for the south of Europe, for Naples; but I do not know what the value of the article is there; I should suppose, for exportation, it would not be worth more than from 24 s. to 30 s. or 32 s. a quarter.

What is the present value of Canada wheat in bond?—I should say, from 24 s. to 30 s.

Is that a losing or remunerating price to the grower and shipper?—A very heavy loss; that wheat must have cost at least 40 s. a quarter in Canada, and 12 s. to 14 s. in bringing over.

Therefore it stands the importer in 52 s. to 54 s.?—Yes, it would make a loss of 22 s. a quarter at least.

What was the highest price of wheat in the markets of Canada last year?—I should suppose 5 s. to 5 s. 6 d. a bushel, or 40 s. to 44 s. a quarter.

Supposing the ports were always open for the importation of Canada wheat, at what price do you suppose it would be supplied to this country, including all expenses, on an average of years?—I should suppose about 64 s. to 67 s.

Much under that would not be a remunerating price to the grower in Canada?—No; I do not think the grower could afford to raise wheat under 5 s. a bushel, which is equal to 40 s. a quarter, and the expenses I have already mentioned are from 12 s. to 14 s. a quarter, making 54 s.; I am speaking without being a farmer; I have never seen wheat, until this year, for the last twenty years, under 5 s. but frequently above it; in Canada that is the lowest price at which I think it possible.

If the ports of this country were permanently open for the reception of Canada wheat, what quantity do you think could be supplied from that country?—The average of the last five years does not exceed 200,000 bushels or 25,000 quarters.

Does the price in Canada depend upon the demand for corn from Great Britain?—I should conceive entirely.

Then in stating the price of 54 s. you had in view the price at which it would be supplied with the demand from Great Britain, rather than the price at which it could be profitably grown by the Canadian farmer?—I think the Canadian farmer would be paid for raising it at 5 s. sterling a bushel, which is 40 s. a quarter, but the prices in that country depend entirely on the price of the article in this country.

The Committee wish to know at what price the farmer in Canada could afford to grow his corn so as to give him a fair remuneration for his capital?—I should say that the Canadian farmer would be remunerated for his capital and labour by obtaining from 5 s. to 6 s. a bushel for his wheat, in ordinary years; but in that country, as in this, the crops fail, and when they have a bad crop, of course they are not paid at that price.

Can you furnish the Committee with the prices of wheat in Canada for a series of years?—Yes; I can do it to-morrow if required.

[*The Witness was requested to furnish this Statement.*]

Can you furnish an account of the quantity of wheat which has been exported from Canada to this country for the last twenty years?—Yes, I can.

[*The Witness was directed to furnish this Account.*]

Is there any prospect of the quantity of wheat increasing rapidly in Canada, if encouragement is given to the producer, by opening the markets of this country free from all restrictions?—I certainly think it would increase, but not rapidly; as a proof of that, the greatest exportation that ever took place from Canada, since I was in that country, was in the year 1802, when I think about a million and ten thousand bushels were exported; and at no time since then, has one-half the quantity been exported.

What was the price of corn at that time?—I forget; but I should suppose about 5 s. or 6 s.; I could furnish the price if it is wished.

If

If capital was supplied in sufficient quantity to the farmers of Canada, could the quantity of corn raised there for exportation be doubled or trebled, at the usual prices, and afford the usual profit to the farmers?—Yes, I think there might, but it would be the operation of a length of time, for the lands would require to be cleared in the first instance; I do not think the lands now under cultivation could, by any capital, be increased to double the amount.

If there were sufficient encouragement given to the cultivation of Canada, very large supplies might eventually be obtained from that country?—No, I do not see, for the reason I have stated, that very large supplies could be drawn from that country; in addition to those reasons, there are a great number of emigrants occasionally resorting to that country, who consume a portion of it.

Is it not likely that those emigrants will produce more wheat than they themselves consume, and thereby increase the quantity for exportation?—There is no doubt they will eventually.

Is the increase of production likely to be greater in Upper than Lower Canada?—In Upper Canada, certainly.

Is not the quality of the wheat in Lower Canada, very much inferior to English grain, from the circumstance of its being spring wheat?—The quality of the grain in Lower Canada is certainly inferior to the quality of English grain, but I am not aware that it arises from that cause, for some of the Baltic wheat that is brought to this country is spring wheat, and is of very fine quality.

In point of fact it is inferior to English wheat?—It is certainly.

At how much do you value that inferiority per quarter?—I should say it is inferior to the average quality of English corn, from six to eight shillings per quarter.

What are the expenses of sending wheat and flour down from Upper Canada to Quebec, per quarter and per barrel, and the expenses previous to shipment?—I should suppose about 12s. a quarter on wheat, and from 4s. to 5s. a barrel on flour.

What are the expenses incurred on a quarter of wheat and a barrel of flour, the produce of Lower Canada, previous to shipment?—I should suppose about one-half.

What would be the consequence to the trade of Canada this year and in future years, if the markets for corn and flour in this country should be shut up to the Canadian grower, by the average continuing under 67s.?—The consequence would be a short exportation of British manufactures to that country, as well as of colonial produce, the merchants not being able to make remittances.

Of course there would be a less quantity of corn grown in Canada?—Of course.

Will any part of the capital employed in growing corn be otherwise employed?—I do not see how they can otherwise employ their time or their labour; I do not see any other occupation that the farmers are fit for; the trade of that country has been seriously injured by the restriction on corn, as well as by the new restrictions which have taken place on the timber trade.

Are not wheat and flour the principal means, if not the only means, by which the consumers in Canada can pay for supplies of British manufactures, which they are compelled, under the colonial system, to receive, exclusively from this country?—Yes, with the addition of potashes, which is a considerable article of exportation from that country.

Is not wood also?—Wood is; but in consequence of the new regulations which are in progress, this year they will not be able to ship any; not one-fourth of the vessels have gone out to that country this year which formerly did, and not one-third of the amount of British goods have been shipped to Canada this year that were formerly, from the inability to pay for them.

May not the number of ships have been diminished by the uncertainty which has prevailed on the subject, and the idea that the regulations would be more unfavourable to Canada than they are?—No, I think not; I do not believe the alteration was anticipated.

Must not any plan of admitting wheat, according to the average price it may bear in this market, be productive of serious inconvenience and uncertainty to the Canadian merchant?—Certainly.

Would a fixed duty on the importation of wheat be a measure more acceptable to the Canadian grower of corn?—I fancy that it would be more certain, particularly to Canada, on account of the navigation of the River St. Lawrence, being so long shut up; the port might be open at the period that the navigation was closed, and in that case the Canadians could not take advantage of it, and before the navigation was opened, the ports might be shut.

What duty on the importation of wheat from Canada, do you think would be equivalent

Hart Logan,
Esq.

(2 May.)

equivalent to the protection afforded to the British farmer by the present law, as far as it regards wheat from Canada?—I really have not given that point sufficient consideration to give an immediate answer; but I should suppose somewhere about 6 s. or 8 s. a quarter.

Do you think, then, a fixed duty of six or eight shillings a quarter would be a measure acceptable to the dealers in corn in Canada?—I should think it would be more acceptable than the present uncertain mode of admitting the wheat under the present averages.

Were not the merchants in Canada aware of the law that existed in this country when they sent the wheat that is now under bond?—Yes they were.

Then they are in exactly the same situation with those persons who have speculated in European corn which is also under bond?—It was completely a new thing to them, for they had never known what it was to have any restriction before; the price of wheat since the passing of this law was constantly above that price at which it was lawful to export it from Canada; for twenty years I have not known any interruption to the importation of Canada corn, nor has Canada paid any duty for the last twenty years.

Do you know whether any United States corn has ever been passed through Canada, as the produce of Canada, and been brought to this country?—There is a law existing, I think, which requires there should be a certificate of origin, in which case, American wheat and flour is prevented being exported to this country.

There is no such law with respect to American timber?—There is not, but I understand by the new regulation, such a law will take place.

Is wheat imported into Canada from the United States?—Yes.

Supposing the timber trade of Canada were placed upon the same footing with the timber trade of Europe, and that a free importation of corn was allowed from Canada into Great Britain, would Canada suffer or gain by it?—In the first instance, there would be no timber trade, if it was placed upon the footing now described; if it is meant to be asked, whether I consider the timber trade or the corn trade the most advantageous to Canada, I should say the corn trade.

At what price per quarter, do you purchase, in Canada, the wheat imported from the United States?—At the same price as that brought from Upper Canada.

Is not the wheat imported from the United States, superior in quality to that which is brought from Upper Canada?—No, it is not; the wheat of Upper Canada is fully equal in quality to that of the United States.

Do you, in ordinary years, import any large quantities of grain from the United States?—No; the quantity is very moderate.

In years of large exportations of wheat to Great Britain, do you import more than the usual quantity of corn from the United States?—Whenever there is a sufficient demand for corn in Great Britain, the Americans ship it for Great Britain directly from their own ports, or at least they did before the present Act.

As the entrance of corn from the United States is interdicted while the trade may be opened to Canada, may it not happen that Canada may send out corn to England at the same time that she is importing corn from the United States?—The wheat imported from the United States is not permitted to be shipped to this country; if any wheat or flour came from the United States into Canada, of course that would be used for home consumption, and other grain exported to that extent.

The Committee wish to know whether, in years when there are unusually large exportations to Great Britain, from the high price in Great Britain, you do not in those years import an unusually large quantity from the United States?—No; we can import only from that part of the United States which borders on the river St. Lawrence, for it is too bulky to admit of land carriage.

What is the greatest quantity of wheat which you recollect to have been imported from the United States into Canada in any one year?—We have no means of forming an exact amount of that; therefore I cannot answer the question.

Do you think it by any means considerable?—No, it has not been considerable at any time.

Is it always much less in quantity than the quantity sent from Canada to England?—Certainly.

Then the Canadians grow much more than their own consumption?—Not very much; the average exports, the last five years, do not exceed 30,000 quarters.

Veneris, 4^o die Maii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. John Brodie, Jun.

Again called in; and Examined.

DO you wish to amend any part of your evidence?—Yes, there is one part I have thought of; the Committee asked me, how low a price wheat could be grown on the very best land, provided it paid no rent; I mean to fill up that by saying 36 s. if you will allow me, 36 s. to 40 s.

On what do you found your opinion?—By calculation.

In estimating that price you consider all the expenditures of the farmer to be at the price at which they have been hitherto?—Yes.

Then of course, if the outlay of the farmer was much reduced on account of the fall in the prices of those things which are necessary to a farmer, the expenses would be under 36 s.?—Most likely it would; it is a speculative question.

John Iveson, Esq. Called in; and Examined.

YOU are perhaps come prepared to give some statement to the Committee?—I am not prepared with any statement, I am merely ready to answer any questions that are put to me; I received an order the other day, to desire my attendance to give evidence.

You are a land agent to a very considerable extent?—Yes.

What counties do you receive rents in chiefly?—In Wilts, in York, a good deal in Durham, Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, and Wales, and in Herefordshire.

State to the Committee, how the rents have been generally paid, in those counties you receive them in; whether they have been this last time very well paid?—The general principle on which we collect rents is to allow the tenant from three months to half-a-year's credit; that is, one-half is collected just before the other becomes due; and all up to this time twelvemonth, up to Lady-day, at which time the collection was made, all the rents up to that time were very well paid; but up to the present Michaelmas we have not finished our collection, now in the course of it as far as it has gone, we have been pretty well paid up to last Michaelmas.

Have the tenants stated to you that they have been in any difficulty in raising the money to pay their rents?—There have been many observations made; they have been obliged to have recourse to what capital they possessed, to meet the payment of the present rents.

They have stated to you that they have been paying out of their capital?—I do not mean to say that is the fact in every case; in a great many cases the tenants have stated that they have been obliged to have recourse to their capital to meet the payment of the present rent.

Have they said that they could not possibly go on at the present rent, and have they asked for a reduction?—In several cases they have.

And have you granted it them?—We have in some cases.

What proportion of reduction per cent?—Very much according to the quality of their farms.

Have you reduced them twenty-five per cent in the course of the last two years?—In some cases; but it by no means is on a general principle.

Can you state whether there has been any reduction of the poor rates in those parts of the country that you have been in?—Yes; we have taken considerable pains to inquire into it, and we find that there has been a general decrease, particularly so in the western part of England; where I dare say the Committee are aware that the rates and payments to the poor are governed by the price of bread, consequently there must be a diminution.

The crops last year were much better in the west of England than in any other place?—I think more so in the western counties than in any other part of the kingdom.

Mr.
John Brodie.

(4 May.)

John Iveson,
Esq.

(4 May.)

John Iveson,
Esq.

(4 May.)

Can you state whether the poor are as well employed as they were?—As far as my knowledge goes I found less poor out of employment during the winter of 1820 and the spring of 1821 than in the preceding year; if I were to take three years, three dates of 1820, 1819, and 1818, I should say, that there were less poor out of employment in 1820 than at any other of the three periods.

What part of Wales do you allude to?—In Brecknockshire, and also in a part of Herefordshire.

In that part of the country where you think the rates have been lowered, are they chiefly in grass countries or arable countries?—I think more particularly in arable countries, for the reason I have given; and more particularly in the western counties, on account of the cheapness of grain.

What is the ground of your opinion; what do you think is the reason of labourers having more employ in 1820 than the other periods?—The extraordinary crop.

You have stated that the farmers, in a great many instances, have paid their rents from their capital?—Yes.

What do you mean by capital?—I do not know that I can explain it better than by giving a sort of instance, that men have had £. 300 or £. 400 laid by, or have had it out at interest, or have bought it in the funds, or have had it lying in some country bank, and they have been obliged to call in a portion of that to make up half a year's rent.

Is the Committee to understand, that in the case to which you have alluded, the same quantity of stock has continued on the farm as there was in years of greater prosperity?—In some cases they have, and in some they have not; in some cases, a man will go on keeping up his regular stock, which he certainly ought to do, if he means to continue his farm; and if his money falls short at the rent day, then he will have recourse to this species of capital which I have stated; in other cases, perhaps, a man has reduced his stock, or something of that sort, and still been obliged to go to his capital to make up the rent; and in some cases he has reduced his stock very considerably.

Is it not the general case, that the stock of farmers upon poor lands, and in indigent circumstances, have been materially diminished?—I think, generally, it has; and in breeding countries, where they go on with their quantity, a certain regular number of young cattle, instead of keeping them up to a certain age, and selling them when they ought to do, they get rid of them sooner; I speak more particularly as to Wales, which is a breeding country; I believe there will not be found, generally speaking, the same number of young cattle on a man's farm, as there were six or seven years ago.

You stated, that in many instances, you have made a reduction in the rent; do you mean the Committee to understand that to be a general principle, which you have adopted with regard to all the rents under your management?—What twenty-five per cent?

A reduction of 25 per cent?—No, certainly not; I do not mean to say that I have made a general reduction; we have made a partial reduction in cases where we thought they were most needed; but we have made no general reduction at all.

Can you state what proportion of the rents, which you have received, you have made a reduction on?—Upon my word, I do not think I can answer that question correctly, without going into a considerable calculation, because it would be necessary for me to look over the rental, and to prepare myself to give an answer correctly; before I could give an answer correctly. I cannot speak to it with any degree of accuracy.

Has the reduction been made chiefly on farms that were let previous to the end of the war, between 1810 and 1814?—Yes.

What reduction would you make with a farm let in 1818 and one to let at the present day?—If I were to let a farm according to the present price and according to the price of 1818, there would be a very considerable difference; I am sure I forget what the average was in 1818, but it was considerably more than the average now; but I am quite at a loss what to let a farm at now.

Can you recollect what price you considered corn at in 1818, the price of wheat?—It was then about 18 *l.* or 20 *l.* a load.

About 10 *s.* a bushel?—If I am right in my recollection, that was about the thing; it was about 20 *l.* a load; now we are not averaging more than about 6 *s.* 6 *d.* I cannot consider the present price of corn now to be a standard price to let a farm by; if a man has got a farm to let, he is in a difficulty, in a scrape to get a tenant for it.

That

That is to say, he gets a tenant with difficulty?—I mean to say, he may get a tenant, but he cannot find one to give him such a price as a man would be glad to get for his land.

In letting a farm now, would you look to a better price of corn?—I should make the best bargain I could.

Are there many lands, the rent of which you collect, generally let for long periods?—I am an enemy to leases.

On letting land, did you always consider 10s. a bushel, as an average price of wheat?—Not always.

Generally speaking?—I have considered it both more and less.

More and less?—Yes; the reason I give for being an enemy to leases is, that my experience, whatever little it is, shows me, that tenants stay longer on farms without leases, than with them.

But must not that depend on the forbearance and moderation of the landlord?—The landlords, generally speaking, must forbear, and they do forbear; you will have very few instances where there is severity; if you take the great proprietors, you will never find much severity in them. There are cases where you will find a tenant go on from one generation to another, if they pay their rent properly, they and their children are fixed there; that is the sort of tenancy which is to bring prosperity to tenants and landlords.

Do such farmers lay out large sums on their farms?—Yes, I think they do.

What counties do you speak to?—I speak particularly to the county of York, and particularly also to the western counties, for instance to Wiltshire; and generally speaking, where my knowledge goes.

Would you as a tenant do so?—Yes, if I rented under a man whom I had dependence upon.

Suppose that man's estate was sold, and went to another person, that you were not acquainted with?—I must run the risk of that; there are many instances of that kind that have occurred.

Do those who are farming without leases, continue their farms in a high state of cultivation?—Yes.

Do you speak of York, or the west of England?—Both.

Are you generally speaking as to large landed proprietors, when you give that answer?—Yes I am, certainly.

If you were consulted by a gentleman respecting jointures, or respecting such charges as form the chief incumbrances on an estate, what alteration would you have made in the valuation, bearing in mind the present time and the year 1818?—I understand what would be the increased quantity of land a rental would require, to secure the same sum; I should certainly take a fourth more.

As between the period of 1814 and 1818, what difference would there be, or 1813 say?—1813 is about the highest period, I think.

The question is meant to refer to the highest period?—I do not think there was a difference made of above one-sixth at that period.

What is the highest calculation you have ever made in the price of wheat, in letting land?—12s. a bushel.

What should you consider now the remunerating price to the farmer for wheat, exclusive of rent, provided the farmer paid no rent?—Very much would depend on the quality of a man's farm, because the proportion of rent always bears harder upon poor land than upon good land; inasmuch as there is the same expense incurred, or more expense incurred, to cultivate an acre of poor land than there is to cultivate an acre of good land; so that a man could afford to sell his wheat cheaper off good land than he could off bad land, if he had no rent to pay.

What quantity of land did you let under the value of 12s. an acre in 1813?—Very little.

In what part of the kingdom?—I cannot positively say, because the letting of land with me, does not altogether apply to that place where we are in the habit of collecting rent, because we let land in many other places at that period in 1813; I cannot really call to my mind the particulars, I know I let some in Hampshire on that scale, and in two or three other parts of the country.

What estimate did you make of the production of such lands?—As applied to wheat?

Yes.—From two quarters and a half to three quarters an acre.

That is, twenty to twenty-four bushels?—Yes.

Do you suppose that to be the produce of the best land in the kingdom?—No.

John Iveson,
Esq.

(4 May.)

What do you suppose it to be?—Lands of the first quality; I know districts of the country, taking the very best qualities in them, that will produce from four to five quarters by the acre.

What part of the kingdom?—I was going to answer further by saying, that I know there are farms that have averaged, in the wheat crop, four quarters to the acre, or thirty-two bushels.

In what part of the kingdom?—In Wiltshire.

What would you estimate the second quality of land at?—I think the middling or second, what I should call the middling quality of lands under good cultivation, may be taken at two quarters and a half.

And the inferior lands?—From 12 to 15 bushels an acre.

Will you have the goodness to state what you consider to be the costs of the proportion for an acre of wheat; will you specify the different ways in which the wheat is put in, and the costs of each?—Perhaps I may be allowed to answer that question in the same way I did the other; it requires a little calculation.

Have you been asked how the rent was paid in those years?—I have answered that.

I wish to ask you, whether, from your knowledge, you consider, if the prices continue as they are, there is a prospect of the next half year being paid equally well?—I think not.

Will you state what proportion of the rent, in your opinion, may be fairly expected to be paid in the next half year?—I should suppose that they will not be so well paid, presuming the prices to continue as they are.

And supposing the prices continue as they are?—I stated before, that the rents which were due at this time twelvemonth, were received the half year next after they became due; and that they were very well paid; that as far as I know of the collection, up to Michaelmas, they were tolerably well paid, but not quite so well as before; I understood the question to apply to the collection to take place up to Michaelmas; that collection, I think, in all probability, will fail very much; very much; materially; I think it will fail.

What was the state of the last crop, abundant, or otherwise?—I think it was abundant; the crop of 1820 was considerably beyond an average.

Generally of articles of produce, or do you confine that answer to wheat?—As far as my knowledge goes, to all sorts of produce; I have been told, and believe it to be true, that in some counties, in Norfolk and Suffolk, they were very short in barley.

In barley?—In wheat, I mean.

Do you mean to confine the flour alone to those two counties?—No, I do not think I do; because I have also understood, I do not speak from my own knowledge, but I have been told, in the northern parts of England and Scotland, that there was a great deal of flour there.

Now in Kent and Essex?—I believe it was pretty good.

You do not collect in Kent?—No great deal; I believe it to have been an average crop, taking the kingdom through.

Have you any connexion with Ireland?—None at all.

Supposing the wheat crop to have been abundant, and the importations large from Ireland, do you think that those causes are sufficient to account for the distress which is now experienced by the farmers?—I do not think it is altogether.

To what other cause then do you attribute the distress among farmers?—There is a difficulty in getting rid of produce; a man may take his corn to market, and nobody will ask him the price of it.

Is not that the effect of abundance?—Unquestionably, to a certain extent, it is the effect of abundance; and, also, the effect of a less consumption. I do not think the consumption is any thing like so great as it was.

Has the importation of foreign corn nothing to do with it?—The account which I have seen stated of foreign corn introduced into this country is so small that I cannot think it has.

How many quarters of oats are there imported generally?—From Ireland.

Not from Ireland alone?—I do not know.

Do you think that no degree of abundance arising from good crops in England could be adequate to produce the degree of agricultural distress which is now experienced?—No, I do not think it could.

Does not the price of corn fall much more than in proportion to the increased quantity arising from good crops?—Yes, I think that it has done so.

Does

(4 May.)

Does it not then happen, that, with a very abundant crop, less money will be received for the whole aggregate quantity of produce than when the crop was short? ---Certainly, it follows of course.

If, then, farmers are under money engagements to their landlords, will they not experience a great degree of distress?---They do experience that, and it was on that principle I stated that the farmer was obliged to have recourse to his capital to pay the rent in many instances.

Are you to be understood to say, that the present amount of distress could not be occasioned simply by an abundance of corn arising from good crops?---Not entirely.

It could not, you think; under no circumstances could an abundance occasion such a degree of distress as is now experienced?---I do not know to what extent abundance is to be carried; I do not know that I can measure the extent to which abundance may be carried.

The question is, whether, under any degree of abundance which you can contemplate arising from favourable seasons, the degree of distress which is at present experienced could be produced?---The best answer to give, is to say that it is a possible case; I think it is possible.

When the Committee say that you can contemplate, they appeal to your experience, and not to your imagination; they do not wish you to imagine such a case of abundance as you have never seen, but such as occasionally occurs?---I know of no crop that has produced it; I know of no abundance that has produced it hitherto.

For the last two years has the oat crop been abundant in this country; of oats?---Yes; I think it has.

Do you consider that the importation of 740,000 quarters of oats did not lessen the price?---I certainly think it did.

Do you know what the value of oats was a quarter before the ports were open?---That was before the crop was harvested.

Just before the ports were open?---In the month of August; it was before last August.

What was the price of oats per quarter just before the ports were open?---I do not recollect at this moment; I cannot speak with any accuracy.

Do you think it was 27*s.* a quarter?---It must have been.

Twenty-seven shillings?---I cannot positively say.

Do you think it was near that?---As far as I recollect it was more than that, if I recollect it right; I know that at the spring of last year oats were as much as 30*s.* and upwards.

What was the last price of oats at the last market day at Mark-lane, for oats?---It could not be more than from 18 to 20*s.*

Perhaps not so much?---I don't know; I have not looked at the price.

Do you attribute the present low price of corn and the distress of the farmers, in any degree, to the good crop of 1820; to the abundant crop of 1820?---I certainly cannot attribute the distress to abundance, if there was not some other reason for the price being very much lowered.

Then it is your opinion that the distress of the farmers never can proceed from abundance alone?---I think it very unlikely.

Supposing the crop of a farmer to be double his average produce, would not the profit arising to him from the additional quantity prevent the distress which now so generally prevails?---Undoubtedly, if he made a return by the price equal to what he would have made had there been a short crop and high prices.

In that we all should agree; but the question is as to your opinion whether he will or not; is general abundance, in your opinion, injurious or otherwise to the farmer?---I cannot conceive abundance to be injurious to any body.

To what causes then do you ascribe the present depressed price of corn, and the distress of the farmer?---For the reasons which I have just stated; and one reason is, that there is not a demand for the produce grown; other reasons are, that all outgoings upon a man's farm are nearly the same as when he obtained a much higher price for his produce.

Why is not the demand for corn as great as in former years?---I do not think there is the great consumption in the country; and, of course, if I go back to the period when the war was, there was a great deal of waste of corn, and corn was sent to various places, and was consumed in a much greater degree than it now is.

But do you not know that during that period we imported a large quantity?---I suppose we did; but still we did not make up the difference, I believe.

John Iveson,
Esq.

(4 May.)

Then you do not think that there is any diminished consumption in England, but the diminished consumption arises from the want of demand in consequence of the peace?—No; I think there is a great diminution of consumption also in England; my reason for believing it is, that in manufacturing districts where the population was very great, at the time good wages were given they ate more; at least bought more, and consumed a great deal more produce than they now do.

Then you think the want of demand is one of the causes of the present low price of corn, and of the distress of the farmer?—I do.

Is there any other cause to which you ascribe the present distress?—I know of no other cause that can produce distress, than the want of means of turning the produce into money, at such a price as will enable a man to meet all his other payments.

Is there an increase in the consumption of potatoes among the labouring classes? I think there is a very considerable increase.

Have they taken to barley instead of wheat?—Not much, as far as my knowledge goes.

Would not the labourer if he could, consume wheat as he formerly did?—Yes, he would.

What is the reason that he does not?—Because he has not the means of buying it, I suppose.

To what cause do you ascribe his want of means of purchasing wheat now as he formerly did?—A diminution of wages, not applied particularly to agricultural labourers and husbandmen, because their consumption is only a portion of the full consumption of the nation.

But supposing the quantity of money in the country was diminished, would not that produce the effect of lowering the price of produce?—I should think it would.

Have the labourer's wages fallen more than the price of corn?—No, I think not.

Do you think they have fallen as much?—No, I do not think they have.

They have fallen considerably?—Yes.

If the rate of wages has fallen considerably, how do you account for the farmer's outgoings not being considerably reduced also?—They are reduced as far as that goes, but that is not the only outgoing a farmer has.

What other outgoings has the farmer?—He has a variety of bills to pay to his blacksmith, to his wheelwright, to his collar maker and harness maker, and his other description of tradesmen.

Have not these several articles of wood, iron and leather, fallen very considerably?—I do not find that the mechanics have reduced their prices to any extent.

If those matters themselves have fallen, and if labour has also fallen, and seed also, must not the farmers outgoings come down to a level with those prices, in the course of a short time?—They ought to do, but they have not done so yet.

But you expect they will?—I think they must very materially decrease, as far as my own experience goes; I am determined to reduce the prices to mechanics as far as my own circle goes, as far as I have any concern.

Is not much of the distress which farmers experience, owing to those prices not having as yet found their level?—I certainly think that that will make a considerable difference to them; I certainly think that.

You do not mean to say, that that is one of the principal causes of the distress under which the farmers labour at present?—I do not mean to take that as a principal cause, but I think that all the circumstances combining together is the reason of it; my opinion is, that they all make up one great cause.

You have stated that the wages of labour have not fallen in proportion to the price of corn?—I think not.

You have also stated, that the labourers are not now less employed than they were in the winters of 1819 and 1820; why then should the means of the labourer be so reduced as to oblige him to forego the use of wheat, and consume a greater proportion of potatoes?—The prices given to labourers for wages in the years 1818 and 1819 were not very high, and any diminution from those prices, particularly in those countries where a great portion of the wages is paid from the poor's rates, operates to the preventing of them from buying wheat at almost any price.

Have the other commodities besides corn, which the labourer consumes, fallen in the same manner as corn?—Not quite in so great a proportion, I think.

Has clothing?—Certainly not.

Does not the winter's occupation of the labourer depend very materially on the quantity of straw grown in the previous year?—Yes, a good deal in corn countries.

Do

Do you attribute the increased occupation of the labourer in the winters of 1820 and 1821, to the bulk of the crop in the preceding year?—In some measure, certainly, I do.

In what proportion have wages fallen?—They vary very much in different parts of the country; but on a general scale, a labourer who before had twelve shillings a week, will be reduced to ten shillings per week, or nine shillings a week; or about ten shillings; the labourer who had nine shillings a week, will be reduced to about seven shillings or seven shillings and sixpence a week.

Has much land gone out of cultivation?—I think not.

Do you think, if the present prices continue, that land will go out of cultivation?—Some land will, there can be no doubt; whether any great proportion will, or will not, I do not know.

Must not all that quality of land, which produces from ten to twelve bushels of wheat, go out of cultivation if the present prices continue as they now are?—I should think a good deal of it; but it is difficult to say. It is a difficult thing to throw up the cultivation of land; a man who has got his stock, and got his money embarked, however poor he may get, cannot throw the farm up without complete ruin to himself. Upon this principle, if poor land was to be thrown out of cultivation, there would be nobody to purchase the stock and the implements, and all the other articles which a farmer has on it; he could make no money of them.

If land was to go out of cultivation, would not the supply of corn be diminished?—Unquestionably.

Would not the price rise?—It would depend upon the consumption.

Would not the price rise, supposing consumption to continue in the state which it now is?—If by throwing land out of cultivation, you decreased the quantity brought to the market, of course the demand for it would increase the price.

Would not that relieve the distresses of the farmer?—It might, as to those who kept the land in cultivation of course; but as to the man who throws his land out of cultivation, the tenant who throws his land out of cultivation would be ruined, and his ruin would tend very much to the ruin of his landlord.

Are there any other means of relieving the present distress but by improving the price of corn?—There are two modes of decreasing the distress; improving the price of corn, and diminishing the farmers outgoings.

Can the price of corn be raised by any other means than by an increased demand or a diminished supply?—I really do not consider myself qualified to point out any other means of doing it.

Would not one of those remedies be as effectual as the other?—I do not know.

Do you recollect, were you in business in 1814?—Yes, I was.

And in the year 1816 likewise, I suppose?—Yes, I was.

Do you recollect the alarm that existed then among the tenantry and the landholders of the country?—Yes; there certainly was a considerable alarm at that time.

At both periods?—Yes; at both periods.

What was that owing to?—A very great falling off in the price of grain; there was a very great diminution in the price of grain and cattle.

Was the alarm any thing at all at that time corresponding to that which now exists?—For a time it was very much the same; but I do not think that it continued so long.

Was there very much difficulty in collecting the rents, or in finding tenants for the farms at those periods?—There was, I think, nearly as much difficulty in collecting of the rents as there ever has been I think in my experience. I do not think that there was such a general panic; nor do I believe there was so much shyness in tenants embarking their capital in farming as there is at this present time.

Allowing for the diminished and diminishing expenses of growing corn, are you of opinion that excepting in those countries where the crops of last year were injured, an average price of 64 s. a quarter for wheat upon the produce of last year, would have been an adequate price to the grower?—I think I know many parts of the country were an average price of something like 64 s. from that to 65 s. or thereabouts, would have enabled the farmer to have met the outgoings of the year.

Including his rent?—Yes, including his rent; and with a prospect of the diminution of the various outgoings a man has upon his farm; if that had been the case, I should think we should not have had quite so much clamour in the country as we have had; there are other parts of England again where I believe that would not have answered the purpose which I have stated.

That is in other places, where the crop was not equally abundant I suppose?—

John Iveson,
Esq.

(4 May.)

Yes, where it was not equally abundant; as to the average of corn, I said I knew farmers, and I do know farmers, where the wheat crop has averaged four quarters to an acre; that is so great a crop that the price I have been speaking of would do very well to such men as those.

What average price do you reckon adequate, supposing there to be only an average crop, and that generally, taking into consideration the circumstances referred to, of diminished expenditure, and supposing it to be upon the present scale of rents?—When the price of eighty shillings was fixed as a protecting price, I considered it a very fair one, and as much, certainly, as it ought to have been; rents, since that time, have been fluctuating, and are certainly somewhat lower; generally speaking they are something lower; taking this into consideration, and looking at a diminution in other outgoings, I think seventy-five shillings would be a very ample provision for a farmer, upon the present scale of rents, as they now are, that is taking average crops.

Supposing a reduction of rent from fifteen to twenty per cent, what then would you state to be an adequate remunerating price for the farmer?—I think that the price might be reduced to seventy shillings; but that is a question which requires a little more thought than I can give it at the present moment.

When you speak of a reduction of rents of from fifteen to twenty per cent, has that reference to the rents as fixed from six to ten years ago?—Yes.

To what extent were the rents raised during the period of the high prices, as compared with what they were before the last war; what is your estimate?—I understand it in this way; that previous to the last war, taking an average of the country then, what was the increase on that average to the highest price on which it stood?

Yes?—I think considerably more than double; certainly more than double.

Do you not consider it nearly treble?—I think more than double; I doubt whether, generally speaking, whether it would treble; I think that as near as my knowledge goes, that that is about the thing; I do not think it would treble, nor yet a very great way short of it.

And you do not consider that any general reduction has yet taken place?—All lettings since the war has been upon a much less scale than it was during the war, and there have several reductions taken place, but the answer which I gave as to a general reduction was as applied to the present time; but I do not know of any body who has any considerable district of country that has let their farms, or that has been going on at a reduction of twenty or twenty-five per cent; I have known persons who have turned back to tenants considerable sums in that way, and I have known persons who have reduced individual farms; I should also state, that I do not think that there was so great an increase, I do not think that there is the same proportion of increase taken place on great estates, on the estates of persons who have got a great extent of country together; I do not think that the same extent of increase has taken place with regard to their estates as upon the estates of less magnitude.

Confining your answer to the latter description of estates, to the greater proprietors, do you think that they have been doubled since 1792?—I doubt whether the same quantity of land may have been at any rate more than doubled on those estates; there has been great additions made to them, and great improvements on them, which has enabled them to increase their rental very much, such as bringing in commons, draining marshes, and every thing of that sort, but the absolutely cultivated ground, I do not think has been more than doubled, if so much as that.

Has the whole surface of these estates been doubled?—The whole surface of these estates might have been doubled from the circumstance I have related, but it has not doubled the rent of a particular acre; it has brought in another acre to the former one.

Has there been, within your knowledge, any considerable outlay of capital to produce this rise of rents?—Yes, undoubtedly there has.

Has not a very considerable proportion of those advances of capital, been made by the tenants?—Yes, a very great deal of that has been laid out by the tenants, no doubt of it.

More than by the landlord, do you conceive, with inclosure, draining, and so on?—I should think it had; I should think so, certainly.

You are speaking to land that has come within your own knowledge?—Of course I do.

Does not the landlord generally take all the first expenses of an inclosure himself?—Yes, certainly.

What

What do you call the first expenses of an inclosure?—The paying the working of a commission on an inclosure, which is no trifling an expense.

Then the landlord pays some part of the expenses of making an inclosure?—Yes; a great part is paid also by the landlord, as much as by the tenant.

Is the Committee to understand you, that you are of opinion, that land of the first quality was capable of producing, on an average, thirty-two bushels on an acre of land?—I beg pardon, but I did not give that answer; I think not.

Did you confine yourself to the last year alone?—I said I knew that last year farms had averaged thirty-two bushels.

What should you say is the average of land of the first quality; how many bushels per acre should you say?—Upon my word it is such a broad question, as applying to all over England, that I do not know how to answer it; I think I know a great deal of land that is capable of producing thirty-two bushels, and that does produce that quantity.

What proportion, supposing that to be the average of land of the first quality; what proportion does the quantity of land that is capable of bearing twenty bushels per acre, bear to that which is capable of producing thirty-two bushels per acre; is it not materially greater?—Yes, infinitely greater; but really I do not know how to give the proportion. It is, I am sure, infinitely greater.

Supposing that the poor laws were confined to the decrepid, infancy and age, what effect do you think that would have upon the wages of the labourer?—It would increase the nominal sum paid to the labourer, and, I think, very much benefit the country, because a considerable part of the labour is paid for by the poors rates.

In what proportion do you think wages would rise, if such an improvement was to take place?—The rise of wages would vary very much, according to the different parts of the country, because the custom of paying labourers varies very materially; of course the wages would increase the most where they are now paid, where the labourers are now receiving the most relief from the poor rates. I know some places where a man is receiving seven or eight shillings a week for his labour, and, perhaps, he is receiving five shillings from the poors rates, because he has a very large family.

What would be the general average rate of wages if the poor laws were improved, as I have supposed; what would be the general average rate of wages in money do you suppose?—From twelve to fifteen shillings a week I should think; I should think about that.

Would it not depend upon the demand for labour?—Yes, undoubtedly; every thing in the country depends upon the demand for labour.

Do you not think a permanent duty upon the importation of corn would be a better protection to the farmer than the present corn laws?—I should think so.

Do you think that the present corn laws afford an adequate protection to the farmer?—Certainly, the experience which we have had shows that it does not.

Then you attribute some part of the distress in agriculture to the inadequacy of the present corn laws?—Yes.

Do you think any other system would protect the agriculturists better?—I do not wish to give a positive opinion about it, for I feel a delicacy in giving an opinion upon it, it being a legislative enactment; but I am rather inclined to believe that a protecting duty would operate more to the keeping up the price of corn than the present corn laws do.

What permanent duty, do you think, according to your ideas of protection, would be an adequate protection to the farmer?—Really I am not prepared to give a decided answer to that question.

What should be the effect of a corn law in order to give what you conceive to be a protection to the farmer?—To so regulate the prices at which corn sells as to enable the farmer to meet his outgoings.

Do you conceive that any law can raise the price of corn?—I doubt, certainly, very much, whether it could.

Then the present law has been ineffectual only because it has not had the effect of increasing the price of corn?—Not altogether that.

Then why do you say that it has not been a protection to the farmer?—Because under that law, under that existing law, the farmer is in distress.

Is the present distress owing to the importation of foreign corn?—I do not think it is altogether; certainly not intirely. I think that that is a very small portion of the cause.

Was the distress of which you have spoken in 1816, owing to an abundant supply of corn or to a diminished demand?—I do not think we had a good crop; and there was a falling back from an excessive demand.

You

John Iveson,
Esq.

(4 May.)

You have stated that there is a great difficulty in letting land at the present moment from an extreme depreciation in the price of corn; do you not think, that that difficulty would be principally removed, if wheat was to be raised to eight shillings per bushel?—Very much so.

You stated that you had a great difficulty in letting land, from the extreme depression in the price of corn; do you not think that the difficulty would in a great degree be lessened, or principally removed, if wheat was to raise to eight shillings per bushel?—I think it would; but the difficulty in letting farms is chiefly in very poor countries; there is not that difficulty in the letting of good lands.

Between the present price of corn and eight shillings a bushel, there is a difference of eight shillings on the quarter of wheat, does not that difference between eight shillings and the present price amount to the whole rental of the kingdom; that is, you know, it is thirty shillings on an acre of land; taking two quarters and a half to the acre?—It is thirty shillings an acre; then it certainly would amount to the whole rental of the kingdom; because I do not think that the average of the whole of the land in the kingdom is as much as thirty shillings per acre, or any thing like it; I do not think that the land of this kingdom taken at an average, lets for more than twenty shillings per acre.

That is your opinion, is it?—It is, certainly.

Then between eight shillings and the present price, the whole rental of the kingdom is sunk?—Certainly.

Martis, 8^o die Maii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Thomas Tooke, Esq. ;

Again called in; and Examined.

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(8 May.)

IN your last examination, you stated that you assumed bank notes not to have varied, as compared with commodities, since 1819, more than about ten per cent from the alteration in the value of bank notes, and that you had no sufficient ground-to infer that silver had varied in value; as the Committee understand that you have some further statements to make, in corroboration of that opinion, they would be glad now to hear them?—With a view to satisfy myself how far the general impression, under which my former answers were given, might be borne out by a more detailed reference to facts, I have, since my last examination, looked into the particulars of dates and prices, and quantities, relating not only to the commodities in which I myself am most largely concerned, but to those of other important branches of trade, and the result is such as fully to confirm that impression. I have made out, and I beg leave to present, a comparative statement of prices; and I think that I can satisfactorily account for the fall, in every instance in which it has occurred within the period referred to, without ascribing an effect beyond ten per cent to the alteration in the currency occasioned by the Act of 1819.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper.*]

PRICES OF THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES IN LONDON.

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(8 May.)

	Lowest in 1816.		May 1816.	May 1817.
Petersburgh clean hemp	£. 39½ a' 40	30 July	£. 40a' 41	£. 39 a' 39½
Petersburgh 12 h ^d flax	£. 45	31 May	£. 49 a' 45	£. 50 a' 50½
Petersburgh yellow candle tallow	48/6	13 July	52/6 a' 53/.	53/ a' 53/6.
Linseed	36/ a' 46	13 May	36/ a' 48/.	40/ a' 56/.
Linseed oil	£. 37½	30 July	£. 39	£. 40
Gallipoli oil	£. 74	25 June	£. 78 a' 80	£. 98 a' 100
Whale oil	£ 24 a' 25	2 April	£ 26	£. 33
Bengal cotton	11¼ d. a' 13¼ d.	31 Dec.	15 d. a' 16½ d.	10¼ d. a' 12¼ d.
Surat - d°	13 d. a' 16 d.	31 Dec.	16 d. a' 19½ d.	14 d. a' 19 d.
Bowed Georgia d°	-	-	20 d. a' 21 d.	19 d. a' 21 d.
Pernambuco d°	23 d. a' 24 d.	31 Dec.	28½ d. a' 30 d.	24½ d. a' 25½ d.
Jamaica coffee	-	-	72/ a' 98/.	92/ a' 100/.
St. Domingo d°	60/ a' 63/.	9 April	63/ a' 67/.	72/ a' 76/.
British plantation sugar	42/11½	6 Aug.	52/8½	42/7½
Havannah sugar white	62/ a' 70/.	19 Nov.	74/ a' 80/.	67/ a' 71/.
Leeward Islands rum	2/3 a' 2/8	6 Aug.	2/8 a' 2/11	2/5 a' 2/9
Spanish wool, Leonesa	5/6 a' 6/.	11 June	6/ a' 6/6	6/6 a' 7/.
Saxon wool	-	-	7/ a' 7/6	8/ a' 8/6
Silk, Reggio	22/ a' 23/.	4 June	22/ a' 24/.	22/ a' 23/.
D° Novi white	-	-	34/ a' 36/.	40/ a' 44/.
D° Bengal	10/3 a' 13/1	6 Aug.	13/1 a' 14/1	15/5 a' 18/11
D° China	-	-	20/1 a' 23/1	21/ a' 30/5
Lead Scotch Mine Company	£. 16½	24 Sept.	£. 18½	£. 17
British iron in bars	£. 9½	26 Nov.	£. 12	£. 9½ a' 10
Indigo, first quality	8/- a' 9/1	29 Oct.	9/ a' 9/6	8/6 a' 9/11
D° inferior	3/6 a' 4/3	29 Oct.	4/ a' 4/6	5/3 a' 6/.
Pepper, Company's black	7 d. a' 7½ d.	22 Oct.	8½ d.	7½ d. a' 7½ d.
Memel timber	-	-	£. 6	£. 6
American yellow pine d°	-	-	£. 4 15s.	£. 4 12s. 6d.
British copper in cakes	£. 100	-	-	-

(continued.)

	May 1818.	May 1819.	May 1820.	May 1821.
Petersburgh clean hemp	£. 48½	£. 45½ a' 46	£. 42 a' 41½	£. 37½ a' 37
Petersburgh 12 h ^d flax	£. 65	£. 58	£. 53 a' 52	£. 50 a' 48
Petersburgh yellow candle tallow	69/ a' 70/.	69/.	61/.	48/6 a' 49/.
Linseed	50/ a' 68/.	48/ a' 58/.	46/ a' 54/.	32/ a' 42/.
Linseed oil	£. 50	£. 45	£. 37	£. 30 a' 31
Gallipoli oil	£. 95	£. 84 a' 88	£. 76 a' 78	£. 68 a' 70
Whale oil	£. 42	£. 33	£. 32	£. 22½
Bengal cotton	10¼ d. a' 13 d.	5½ d. a' 7½ d.	5½ d. a' 8 d.	5½ d. a' 6½ d.
Surat - d°	13½ d. a' 18 d.	6 d. a' 10½ d.	6 d. a' 9½ d.	6 d. a' 8 d.
Bowed Georgia d°	20 d. a' 22 d.	13 d. a' 15½ d.	11½ d. a' 12½ d.	9½ d. a' 10½ d.
Pernambuco d°	25½ d. a' 26½ d.	19 d. a' 21 d.	15½ d. a' 16½ d.	13½ d. a' 14 d.
Jamaica coffee	123/ a' 126/.	124/ a' 137/.	132/ a' 140/.	135/ a' 141/.
St. Domingo d°	118/ a' 121/.	103/ a' 105/.	109/ a' 111/.	113/ a' 115/.
British plantation sugar	49/3	41/8½	37/7½	36/4½
Havannah sugar white	71/ a' 75/.	60/ a' 62/.	60/ a' 66/.	59/ a' 61/.
Leeward Islands rum	2/10 a' 3/3	2/8 a' 2/10	2/2 a' 2/3	1/8 a' 1/9
Spanish wool, Leonesa	6/6 a' 7/.	5/ a' 6/.	4/6 a' 5/.	4/6 a' 5/.
Saxon wool	8/ a' 8/6	8/ a' 8/6	5/6 a' 6/6	5/6 a' 6/6
Silk, Reggio	30/ a' 31/.	24/ a' 25/.	22/ a' 23/.	19/ a' 20/.
D° Novi white	50/ a' 54/.	50/ a' 60/.	38/ a' 40/.	30/ a' 40/.
D° Bengal	24/5 a' 24/8	17/1 a' 20/11	15/3 a' 17/5	14/3 a' 16/4
D° China	22/11 a' 34/.	26/ a' 35/5.	18/ a' 26/2	18/6 a' 22/1
Lead Scotch Mine Company	£. 23½	£. 23	£. 21½	£. 23
British iron in bars	£. 13	£. 13	£. 11	£. 9 15s.
Indigo, first quality	9/3 a' 9/7	8/9 a' 9/3	8/6 a' 8/9	8/ a' 8/4
D° inferior	7/ a' 7/6	6/3 a' 6/6	5/6 a' 6/.	5/6 a' 6/3
Pepper, Company's black	9 d. a' 9½ d.	7½ d. a' 7½ d.	6½ d. a' 6½ d.	7½ d. a' 7½ d.
Memel timber	£. 6½	£. 6 7s. 6d.	£. 6	£. 6.
American yellow pine d°	£. 5	£. 4 12s. 6d.	£. 3 15s.	3l. 10s. a' 3l. 5s.
British copper in cakes	£. 130	-	-	£. 100

In the statement of prices which you have laid before the Committee, why do you begin with the year 1816; why not go further back?—Because it is the first year of the general peace. In 1814, the war with America, and the consequent high freights and insurance, enhanced very materially the prices of imported commodities; and in 1815, the short war in Europe, which terminated with the battle of Waterloo, occasioned

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such rapid variations in the exchanges, in prices and in freights, that no fair inference can be drawn from the state of markets in those years, at all applicable to the present inquiry. But I have considered it important to go back to 1816, because it strikes me, that in as far as the present prices are not lower than in that year, unless in cases where the difference may be accounted for by relative quantity, the presumption is strengthened against any inference that the fall since 1818 is attributable to any material alteration in the value of silver; none of the Continental governments of Europe, having, previous to 1817, began to make the efforts which have been alluded to in former questions, to collect bullion with a view to uphold the credit of their respective banks; great stress having been laid on the effect of those efforts in enhancing the value of silver.

According to this statement, the prices of hemp appears to have been, in May 1819, at 46*l.*; and to be now at 37*l.*; how do you account for this fall?—Of hemp, the importation of 1818, was unusually large; and that of 1819 and 20, beyond the average of 1816 and 17. The Navy board bought 3,000 tons in each of the years 1818 and 19, but took none last year; and the consumption for private shipping, seems to be undergoing a progressive diminution, by the increased and increasing substitution of iron chain for hempen cables. There is, further, a casual absence of demand, arising from the stagnation in shipping connected with the timber question; and the tendency to a decline in price, is increased by the accounts of abundant supplies in Russia, applicable to shipment in the ensuing season.

IMPORTS INTO GREAT BRITAIN.

						Tons.	c.	q.	lbs.
1816	-	-	-	-	-	18,473	1	2	1
1817	-	-	-	-	-	22,863	6	1	18
1818	-	-	-	-	-	33,020	3	1	20
1819	-	-	-	-	-	23,711	17	0	20
1820	-	-	-	-	-	20,925	9	0	6

Will you give a similar statement respecting flax?—Petersburgh flax, which in 1816, was at 45*l.* to 49*l.* per ton, rose in the summer of 1818, to 75*l.*; this advance was occasioned, in part, by the short growth of 1817 in Ireland; and in part, by the spirit of speculation, which in 1818, attached to all articles which had any previous tendency, from whatever cause, to rise; the price, however, had fallen in the spring of 1819, to 58*l.*; and the decline since that time, is attributable, in a great measure, to the increased growth in Ireland, where the quantity of foreign flax seed sown in

1817 was 32,873 hogsheads;—and in 1820 - - - 52,416.

There have likewise been within these few weeks, large importations from Holland; these, with considerable recent supplies from Ireland, to the out-ports of Great Britain, and advices of abundant crops in Russia, prevent the price of flax from advancing, notwithstanding a brisk demand and extending consumption in the manufacturing districts. In Scotland, the business of spinning is very flourishing at present, as will appear by an extract of a letter which I have seen from one of the principal merchants of Leith, dated 23d April 1821; and which, with permission, I will read; it is as follows:

[*Extract of a letter dated Leith, 23d April 1821.*]

“ Our mill spinners are all making fortunes just now, and for 20 years they have never had so prosperous a moment in Dundee, Montrose, &c. They are said to be making about 5*d.* to 6*d.* per spindle, or 11*d.* to 12*d.* out of what costs them 6*d.* or 7*d.* I only wish they may not overdo it; new mills are erecting in Forfarshire, and one was sold the other day for 4,200*l.* which has been these two years in the market, without more than 1,800*l.* being offered for it; with all that, flax keeps low, and as they all now, who can do it, import their own quantities, it leaves nothing for us Russia merchants to do.”

How do you account for the fall of tallow from 69*s.* to 49*s.*?—Russia tallow was in July 1816, as low as 48*s.* 6*d.* The importation of 1817 was unusually small, and the season of 1818 in this country, was so extraordinary dry, as to threaten a great falling off in the home produce of fat. This actual and apprehended deficiency was seized by the spirit of speculation then afloat, to raise the price to the extravagant height of 95*s.* which it reached in September 1818; such a price operated as an encouragement to importation from all quarters; and the quantity accordingly, that has been imported in the two last years, so much beyond any former

former precedent, makes it rather a matter of surprize that the price has not fallen more, being now not lower than it was in the summer of 1816, when the stock for sale was not half so large. The abundance and low price of whale oil, has likewise some effect in depressing tallow. The importation of tallow into London, in the last five years, has been as follows :

1816	- - - -	36,851 casks and 8,429 serons
1817	- - - -	29,856 „ 2,183 „
1818	- - - -	50,574 „ 5,153 „
1819	- - - -	48,886 „ 2,812 „
1820	- - - -	78,450 „ 2,719 „

Of the total imports into Great Britain, I have not been able to get a correct account, except for the year 1820, in which, by an official return, it appears to have been 40,000 tons or nearly 100,000 casks.

How does the proportion of that importation, with regard to Russia, bear in the year you have last stated, to the previous years?—I believe the importation last year to the United Kingdom, was nearly double to that of 1816 and 1817.

Have the goodness to account for the fall in the price of linseed from 68s. to 42 s.?—Of linseed, the importation in the last three years, compared with the three preceding, has been so excessive as fully to account for the present depression. The comparison stands thus :

		Quarters.	
Imported into Great Britain	1815	- -	95,873
—	1816	- -	70,892
—	1817	- -	162,759
			329,524
—	1818	- -	237,141
—	1819	- -	144,521
—	1820	- -	163,369
			545,031

And while the supply has been thus large, the consumption in the shape of oil cakes has been diminished by the openness of the last winter, and by the cheapness of oats and other provender for cattle. The price of linseed oil is naturally depressed in proportion with the seed from which it is extracted.

How do you account for the fall in whale oil?—The price of northern whale oil, which at one period of 1816, was at 24*l.* rose at the end of 1817, by the speculation of an individual, founded upon the unsuccessful fishery in that year, and favoured by the great facilities of the money market at that period to 60*l.* per ton ; but that price nearly put a stop to the consumption, by an extensive substitution of rape seed oil, and the subsequent fishery having proved abundant, the price fell and the individual was ruined. The extraordinary produce of last year's fishery is quite sufficient to account for the present low range of prices.

The result of the northern fisheries from Great Britain in each of the five years is as follows :

	1816.		1817.		1818.		1819.		1820.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
Greenland - -	100	- - 8,200	93	- - 5,600	94	- - 9,100	96	- - 6,300	100	- - 9,100
Davis's Straits -	45	- - 5,400	52	- - 5,300	61	- - 5,100	51	- - 5,200	56	- 10,200
	145	- 13,600	145	- 10,900	155	- 14,200	147	- 11,500	156	- 19,300

The Committee observe that cotton has not fallen considerably since 1819 ; what is your statement respecting cotton?—Cotton had kept up in price down to 1816, much beyond the proportion to other commodities, in consequence of short supplies from North and South America, while the consumption in Europe was increasing ; since that time, the opening of the East Indies to private trade, has brought an immense quantity from that comparatively new source, while the supplies from America have increased considerably ; making an aggregate importation so absolutely overwhelming, that nothing but a greatly increased consumption could have prevented prices from falling lower than they have done ; low and apparently ruinous as they are. I beg leave to present a statement from the London Mercantile Price Current for the year 1820, of the annual importation, consumption and exportation ; as also of the remaining stock of this highly important article in each of the last

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(8 May.)

six years; and to read an extract of a Liverpool circular, dated 6th January last, which contains very valuable remarks on the trade and manufacture of cotton. It is as follows: "The leading feature of the cotton trade in 1820, appears to be the great increase of supply from the United States, being an addition of about one-half upon the average of the four preceding years, which may be attributed more to the remarkable fineness of the season, than to the extension of cultivation, though the latter was considerable. The increase of import from Brazil has also been important; and the accumulation of supply from these two countries, has reduced prices generally lower than they have heretofore been known. The annexed tables show the great decline which has taken place, particularly in prices of American and Brazil. Throughout the year, spinning has increased (the new mills erected in 1818 and 1819 having been brought into full operation), and the demand for manufactured goods has been very great; the consumption of cotton has consequently been greatly extended; the delivery to the trade from the ports, appears to have been 68,250 bags more than in 1819; but it is supposed, that the dealers and spinners hold about 20,000 bags (almost exclusively American and Brazil,) more than they did last Christmas; whereas on the 31st December 1819, they were estimated to hold 10,000 bags less than on the 31st December 1818. Presuming this to be the case, the increase of consumption in 1820 above 1819, would appear to be 38,000 bags, or 730 bags per week; showing a total of 8,970 bags per week against 8,240 in 1819, and 7,980 in 1818. The average weight consumed is also rather more than last year. The increased demand has run principally upon American cotton, of which the average consumption seems to have been 4,550 bags per week against 4,000 bags in 1819. In India cotton there has also been an increase, chiefly in the early part of the year, when prices of Boweds were higher in proportion. It is computed that the consumption of American has latterly risen to 4,700 bags per week; and that there is a corresponding reduction in that of India; and so long as prices of Boweds and Orleans rank so nearly with those of Bengal and Surat as they now do, the consumption of the former may be expected to continue proportionally greater.

In 1819, our markets were relieved by a demand for the Continent. In 1820, the export (it will be seen) has fallen off materially; so that notwithstanding the increased home consumption the total supply of 1820 has exceeded the demand by 55,000, and the actual consumption by 75,000 bags. How far there will be an excess of supply in 1821 it is difficult to judge; the accounts of the crops now coming forward from America are favourable, and it is generally expected the produce will not be less than last season; from Brazil it is difficult to collect any accurate information; in India, the crops of 1819 have failed. The export of cotton yarn from Great Britain appears to have increased considerably; it was in

					lbs.
1816	-	-	-	-	16,362,782
1817	-	-	-	-	13,732,679
1818	-	-	-	-	16,106,304
1819	-	-	-	-	19,652,117
1820	-	-	-	-	about 22,000,000

The four first years are taken from the official returns; the last from advices from the different shipping ports.

TABLE N° 1.

STATEMENT of the Annual Importation of Cotton Wool into Great Britain for Six Years, ended December 31st 1820, distinguishing the Places of Supply and Ports of Importation.

YEARS.	From the United States of America.	Portugal and Brazil.	West Indies and Spanish Colonies.	East Indies.	All other Places.	TOTAL.
	Bags.	Bags.	Bags & Serons.	Bags.	Bags.	Bags.
1815 - - -	185,000	90,000	53,700	24,300	18,100	371,300
1816 - - -	165,000	123,669	45,828	33,830	1,979	370,306
1817 - - -	197,079	114,672	37,605	117,252	11,254	477,862
1818 - - -	216,500	161,750	41,010	242,090	6,110	667,460
1819 - - -	205,079	125,331	29,290	184,224	1,428	545,352
1820 - - -	301,928	179,824	30,438	57,984	1,377	571,551
	Average Wt 240 lb.	Average Wt 180 lb.	Average Wt 200 lb.	Average Wt 300 lb.	—	—

Table N° 1—continued.

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(8 May.)

YEARS.	Into LONDON.	LIVERPOOL.	GLASGOW.	Other Ports.
	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
1815 - - -	71,000	271,000	29,400	—
1816 - - -	67,484	276,939	25,893	—
1817 - - -	119,140	314,112	44,600	—
1818 - - -	189,750	426,756	50,954	6,000
1819 - - -	136,199	365,878	43,275	—
1820 - - -	74,735	458,801	36,636	1,379

	American.	Brazil.	Demerara, West Indies, &c.	East Indies.	Smyrna and others.	TOTAL.
The sorts imported in 1820	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
Into LONDON - -	4,952	17,807	4,850	46,150	976	74,735
— LIVERPOOL -	272,574	161,779	16,624	7,668	156	458,801
— GLASGOW - -	24,182	238	8,531	3,440	245	36,636
— Other Ports -	220	- - -	433	726	- - -	1,379
TOTAL - -	301,928	179,824	30,438	57,984	1,377	571,551

TABLE N° 2.

STATEMENT of the Annual Consumption and Exportation of Cotton Wool in and from Great Britain for Six Years, ended December 31st 1820.

YEARS.	Consumption.	Being an Average per Week of	Exportation.
	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
1815 - - -	339,000	6,500	About - - 32,000
1816 - - -	347,600	6,680	— - - 30,000
1817 - - -	419,160	8,060	— - - 23,500
1818 - - -	421,564	8,107	— - - 58,000
1819 - - -	432,628	8,319	— - - 66,772
1820 - - -	490,938	9,441	— - - 27,540
Sorts taken for Home Consumption in 1820.	Consumption.	Being an Average per Week of	Sorts Exported in 1820.
	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
American - - - -	245,804	4,727	9,360
Brazil - - - - -	139,298	2,679	5,870
Demerara, West India, &c.	29,083	558	950
East India - - - -	74,636	1,435	11,360
Smyrna and others - -	2,117	42	—
TOTAL - -	490,938	9,441	27,540

TABLE, N^o 3.Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(8 May.)

STATEMENT of the Stocks of Cotton Wool remaining in Great Britain, in Import Warehouses, on the 31st December in each year, from 1815 to 1820, both inclusive; distinguishing at what Ports:

YEARS.	At LONDON.	LIVERPOOL.	GLASGOW.	Other Ports.	TOTAL STOCK in Import Warehouses in GREAT BRITAIN.
	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
31st Dec. 1815 - -	12,800	70,000	3,300	- - -	86,100
— 1816 - -	23,000	50,000	5,800	- - -	78,000
— 1817 - -	45,600	54,000	3,600	- - -	113,200
— 1818 - -	134,000	148,500	13,600	5,000	301,100
— 1819 - -	211,190	127,000	12,997	2,500	353,687
— 1820 - -	221,080	167,200	16,630	1,850	406,760

	American.	Brazil.	Demerara, West Indies, &c.	Surat.	Bengal.	Bourbon.	Smyrna and others.	TOTAL.
	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>	<i>Bags.</i>
1820: Stock consists								
At LONDON of about - -	1,600	12,100	2,800	56,200	146,350	1,750	280	221,080
LIVERPOOL ditto								
Sea Island - - 7,500	69,500	54,600	8,700	10,500	23,200	700	-	-
N. Orleans - 17,000								
Bowed - - - 45,000								
GLASGOW - - - -	8,200	1,650	2,600	150	4,030	- - -	- - -	16,630
Other Ports - - -	30	- - -	820	- - -	1,000	- - -	- - -	1,850
TOTAL - - -	79,330	68,350	14,920	66,850	174,580	2,450	280	406,760

Have you any statement to make respecting sugar?—I have. The decline in sugar may be ascribed to an increased importation, including that from the East Indies; and to a diminished exportation. The produce of our own colonies is compulsorily sent hither, and the quantity is beyond the consumption of this country, great and increasing as it is; the only resource, therefore, for the surplus is in an export; but the demand for exportation has fallen off considerably and progressively in the last three years. This diminution of export is not owing to any falling off in the demand of continental Europe, but to a great increase in the produce of the Havannah and the Brazils; a large proportion of which is shipped direct to the ports of the Continent. It is well known that Russia, in imitation of our protective system, has by the late tariff, excluded crushed lumps, which are the lowest description of refined sugar, and used to be admitted on the same footing as raw, by charging them with the same duty as double refined; but, notwithstanding that exclusion, the total importation into St. Petersburg in 1820 was 19,700* tons, against 8,950 tons in 1819; so that not only the chasm created by our diminished export, but a large additional quantity was supplied chiefly by the Havannah, the Brazils, and the East Indies. Under these circumstances nothing could have prevented a further fall in the price of British plantation sugar, but the great and increasing consumption of this country; and that our internal consumption has continued to increase, may be inferred from this, that the stock of British plantation sugar on hand at the close of 1820 was about 15,000 casks less than at the end of 1819, notwithstanding the diminished export. As a further presumption that the fall of British plantation sugar is not attributable to any increase in the value of silver, it may be observed, that white

				Poods.	
* 1819 - - - -	raw - - -	- - -	- - -	495,375	N.B. 63 Poods=1 Ton.
— - - -	refined - - -	- - -	- - -	68,877	
1820 - - - -	raw - - -	- - -	- - -	1,063,230	
— - - -	refined - - -	- - -	- - -	177,856	

Havannah

Havannah, which is the sort most extensively used on the continent of Europe, is now at within the merest trifle of what it was in May 1819. The imports of British plantation and East India sugars have been as follow :

(8 May.)

		1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.
		Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
Imported into	London - -	186,000	175,000	182,500	180,000	176,600
	Liverpool -	43,800	39,800	42,000	44,000	39,300
	Glasgow -	22,000	21,000	24,000	25,700	23,800
	Bristol - -	26,000	26,000	23,000	26,300	26,000
	Totals -	277,800	261,800	271,500	276,000	265,700
	E.India Bags	84,000	59,300	105,300	159,100	180,000

Have you any observations to make respecting the variations in the price of rum?—The fall in rum may be sufficiently accounted for by the increase in the importation, but perhaps in part likewise by the reduced price of British spirits, in consequence of the cheapness of barley. The imports of rum into Great Britain have been :

1816	- - - - -	36,200	puncheons.
1817	- - - - -	52,700	"
1818	- - - - -	46,400	"
1819	- - - - -	54,830	"
1820	- - - - -	59,600	"

Have you any observation to make respecting wool?—The depression in the price of wool, in the two last years, is, in fact, greater than appears on the face of the quotations, inasmuch as the new duty attached since October 1819. But great as is this depression, I am inclined to think that the fall beyond 10 per cent may be accounted for, partly by the excessive importations which took place prior to that period, and partly by the diminished exportation of cloths; which diminished export may, perhaps, be ascribed, in some degree, to the additional duty on wool; of late, the market for fine wool has improved, and I have been told by a manufacturer of the West of England, that the clothing business is reviving in that quarter.

From 1st Sept' 1816 to 1st Sept' 1817—	Spanish 19,136 bags a' 2	Cwt. 38,272	
	German 8,979 - - 3	- 26,937	Cwts.
			65,209
From 1st Sept' 1817 to 1st Sept' 1818—	Spanish 38,247 bags a' 2	- 76,494	
	German 23,107 - - 3	- 69,321	
			145,815
From 1st Sept' 1818 to 1st Sept' 1819—	Spanish 28,151 bags a' 2	- 56,302	
	German 36,214 - - 3	- 108,642	
			164,944
From 1st Sept' 1819 to 1st Sept' 1820—	Spanish 18,517 bags a' 2	- 37,034	
	German 14,323 - - 3	- 42,969	
			80,003

The official accounts are made up to the 5th January in each year; but those for the manufacturers' own use, are made up to the 31st August of each year, because the clip of the sheep takes place in May and June, and the wools begin to arrive in September.

How do you account for the fall of silk?—The increased importation of silk, is fully adequate to account for the fall in price; the market has improved, of late, and I am assured, that the consumption never was greater than at this time. The imports have been—

	China.	Bengal.	Italy.
1816	- - - - 697	- - 4,728	- - 1,276 bales
1817	- - - - 1,073	- - 3,413	- - 2,810 "
1818	- - - - 1,434	- - 7,639	- - 5,266 "
1819	- - - - 1,398	- - 3,752	- - 3,675 "
1820	- - - - 2,754	- - 7,056	- - 5,592 "

From Turkey about 1,000 bales.

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(8 May.)

How do you account for the fall of iron?—I am not sufficiently informed respecting British iron, to say whether the fall within the two last years, is the effect of increased produce or diminished consumption; but as the present price is not lower than in 1816, the depression since 1819 beyond 10 per cent, cannot, in my opinion, be ascribed to any alteration in the value of silver.

Have you any observation to make respecting copper?—The great advance in copper, which took place in 1817 and 1818, occasioned the working of some new mines in Cornwall; the increased produce from whence, fully accounts for the subsequent decline to about 100 l. or the level from which it rose; and I am told, that it is in fair demand at present, notwithstanding that there is a diminution of some of the sources of foreign demand. France and Germany having received larger supplies than usual, from Russia, in the two last years, the exports from Petersburg have been as follows:

1818	-	-	-	-	155 tons
1819	-	-	-	-	1,419 „
1820	-	-	-	-	4,466 „

You have not included, in your statement, the prices of manufactured goods; are you not aware, that those have likewise, in many instances, fallen more than ten per cent?—I have not included those, because if the fall of the raw materials be accounted for, the same reasoning will apply to the manufactures into the composition of which such raw materials enter. During a long continued fall in the price of raw materials, the manufactured articles must, by the law of competition, follow the same course, or nearly so; and in those cases, the manufacturers must sustain losses in proportion to the stocks they happen to hold at each step of the fall; but the ultimate effect of such a fall, arising from the abundance of the raw materials, must, in general, be an extension of the manufacture; an effect which seems to be already in progress.

Do you happen to have any statement of the prices, further back than 1816?—I have extracted, from an annual circular of a very intelligent broker, an elaborate statement which forms a sort of an epitome of our commercial history for the last twelve years:—(*delivering in the same, which is as follows:*)

STATEMENT of Prices in the following Years, upon the Average, from ORDINARY to to FINE Qualities.

	1809:	1810:	1811:	1812:
	Our chief export trade via Heligoland, brisk, but checked by increasing vigilance of the French.	Great part of the Continent under blockade, causes all Colonial produce to centre here; Brisk trade to the Baltic, with simulated papers, followed by great disasters.	Export trade to the Continent very confined, Holland, and as far as the Elbe, being annexed to France.	Revival of trade under French and English licenses; Invasion of Russia.
SUGARS, Muscovado - -	35/. a' 50/.	46/. a' 56/.	20/. a' 30/.	34/. a' 50/.
White, clayed - -	32/. a' 56/.	65/. a' 80/.	30/. a' 50/.	45/. a' 66/.
Refined - - - -	49/. a' 80/.	80/. a' 130/.	35/. a' 60/.	50/. a' 75/.
COFFEE - - - - -	70/. a' 120/.	105/. a' 135/.	30/. a' 56/.	40/. a' 80/.
RUM - - - - -	3/. a' 4/.	4/. a' 5/6.	3/. a' 4/.	4/. a' 6/.
COTTON, Brazil - - -	1/6. a' 1/9.	2/. a' 2/4.	1/4. a' 1/6.	1/6. a' 1/9.
American - - -	1/2. a' 1/6.	1/6. a' 1/10.	1/. a' 1/3.	1/2. a' 1/6.
East India - - -	10d. a' 1/.	1/. a' 1/2.	8d. a' 10d.	9d. a' 11d.
PEPPER - - - - -	10d. a' 10 1/4d.	11 3/4d. a' 12d.	7d. a' 7 1/2d.	8d. a' 8 1/2d.
LOGWOOD - - - - -	£. 16.	£. 40.	£. 10.	£. 13.
Exchange on Hamburg - -	29/.	30/6.	24/6.	29/.

Statement of Prices, &c.—continued.

	1813:	1814:	1815:	1816:
	Free trade with the North; War with America; Distillation from Sugar; Holland emancipated; Great speculations. The prices are those of the end of the year.	Allies in Paris; the East India free trade opens; Commercial benefits of the Peace found to have been overrated. I quote the highest prices up to March, when they began to decline.	Peace with America; the Corn Bill passed; Buonaparte returns from Elba; Battle of Waterloo; Trade very fluctuant and depressed. The prices are from July to September.	The Foreign Colonies being restored, the operation of the Corn Bill, Continental policy against British goods, all tend to shackle our commerce, and lead to internal commotions. Our ports open to foreign corn in November.
SUGARS, Muscovado - -	70/. a' 74/.	95/. a' 105/.	56/. a' 70/.	40/. a' 50/.
White, clayed - -	100/. a' 120/.	115/. a' 135/.	90/. a' 105/.	60/. a' 70/.
Refined - - - -	115/. a' 150/.	140/. a' 180/.	88/. a' 120/.	62/. a' 100/.
COFFEE - - - - -	90/. a' 130/.	105/. a' 145/.	75/. a' 110/.	63/. a' 95/.
RUM - - - - -	5/. a' 7/.	6/. a' 8/.	3/. a' 4/6.	3/. a' 4/.
COTTON, Brazil - - -	2/3. a' 2/9.	3/. a' 3/2.	2/. a' 2/4.	1/9. a' 2/.
American - - -	2/. a' 2/3.	2/6. a' 3/.	1/6. a' 2/.	1/5. a' 1/8.
East India - - -	1/3. a' 1/6.	1/6. a' 2/.	1/. a' 1/2.	1/. a' 1/3.
PEPPER - - - - -	14d. a' 14½d.	19d. a' 20d.	10½d. a' 11d.	7d. a' 7½d.
LOGWOOD - - - - -	£. 20.	£. 26.	£. 13.	£. 7.
Exchange on Hamburg - -	28/.	29/. Sept ^r 33/.	32/. a' 34/.	36/6.

(continued.)

	1817:	1818:	1819:	1820:
	The manufacturing districts still disturbed, and trade paralyzed; American Navigation Act passed; French Loan contracted in this country; Large Corn Importations improve trade at the close of the year.	Export trade to America and the Continent improves; Large operations making to foreign colonies, St. Domingo and the East Indies; Prussian Loan, also a British Loan contracted. Prices in September.	Great fall of the French funds, ruinous result of West and East India adventures, and the Ports shut against Foreign corn, cause many failures, new disturbances, and repress trade and confidence; another British loan required; the Bank bill to pay in gold at Mint prices in 1821, and in specie in May 1823, passed; Russian tariff excluding crushed sugar. Prices in November.	Trade regular but not extensive, and prices of all goods (except coffee, owing to small stocks) extremely low, hence susceptible of improvement. Prices in August.
SUGARS, Muscovado - -	50/. a' 57/.	48/. a' 56/.	30/. a' 40/.	32/. a' 45/.
White, clayed - -	60/. a' 72/.	56/. a' 76/.	40/. a' 52/.	45/. a' 65/.
Refined - - - -	65/. a' 100/.	67/. a' 90/.	47/. a' 90/.	46/. a' 75/.
COFFEE - - - - -	85/. a' 105/.	140/. a' 167/.	100/. a' 140/.	130/. a' 150/.
RUM - - - - -	3/. a' 5/.	3/9. a' 4/9.	2/3. a' 3/.	2/3. a' 3/.
COTTON, Brazil - - -	1/10. a' 2/.	2/. a' 2/2.	1/3. a' 1/6.	1/3. a' 1/4.
American - - -	1/6. a' 1/9.	1/8. a' 2/.	1/. a' 1/3.	11d. a' 1/2.
East India - - -	1/. a' 1/2.	9d. a' 11d.	6d. a' 9d.	7d. a' 9d.
PEPPER - - - - -	8½d. a' 9d.	9d. a' 9½d.	6½d. a' 7d.	6½d. a' 7d.
LOGWOOD - - - - -	£. 9.	£. 9.	£. 6. 10.	£. 7. 10.
Exchange on Hamburg - -	34/6.	34/9.	36/.	37/.

London,
22d December 1820.

(Signed)

C. U. RIETHMULLER.

Thomas Tooke,
Esq.

(8 May.)

Referring to the former part of your evidence, do you believe the opinion of a small difference of the supply, occasionally producing a great difference in price, applies equally to the Continent as to England in corn?—Not so much, because on the Continent the comparative want of assistance by such establishments as our poor laws, and by the interference of benevolent individuals, prevents that competition of purchasers, which in this country raises the money prices, in order to secure to each individual, however low or poor, some portion of the existing supply.

Do you consider Russia in a state of complete cultivation?—Never having travelled in the interior of Russia, I cannot speak from accurate knowledge on that point.

How can you determine that no increase of quantity can be obtained from thence except by a considerable advance in price at the present times?—Because the price of wheat has of late been below the price of other articles of raw produce, in Russia; and I understand that there is very little inducement at those prices, to bring down any fresh supplies of wheat to the northern parts of Russia, with which alone I am particularly acquainted.

You have stated, that you believe the abundance of our wheat crop was the chief cause of our present depression, and you have also said, that the crops of 1818 and 1819, were particularly abundant throughout the whole of the north of Europe, the Netherlands and the north of France, more so than in this country, and that in 1820 it was tolerably abundant in Germany; the Committee wish to know why you think that on the Continent, if they have only an average crop, the prices will rise?—Because I have understood that the late prices have been those of extreme distress, and are not remunerating ones.

Then in this case, abundance is not the cause of depression; are there other causes besides that?—The distress arising from abundance does not always cease immediately upon the abatement of the degree of abundance. On the other hand, the full effects of abundance are not usually felt till after some interval; I believe, from all I have heard, that the stocks of wheat on the Continent, particularly in Russia, are not so large as they were a twelvemonth ago.

As you state it to be your belief, that France and Germany have extended their cultivation, but Spain and Portugal have not; is it to those countries you principally look as to the possibility of an operative bounty upon the export of British corn?—I am afraid that the system of exclusion has been followed so extensively, and is gaining ground so much, that it would be difficult, even by a bounty, to admit of a large export as a certain resource in the event of a superabundant harvest in this country; and I only suggested a bounty corresponding with the duty on importation, for the purpose of pointing out what would be the correct principle; not that I am sanguine as to any remedy of the kind, within moderate compass, under the existing system of intercourse in Europe.

Is there any other country to which you look, as likely to consume corn exported from England under a bounty?—No, I do not look to any. That is one of the reasons why I deprecate any duty upon importation, which may have the effect of keeping lands in cultivation to such an extent, as may occasion a frequent recurrence of a produce beyond our own consumption. For such superabundant produce I do not see the chance of an outlet at any but the most ruinous depression of price.

To what do you attribute the great increased number of puncheons of rum, between the year 1816 and 1820?—I am not acquainted sufficiently with the nature of the West India trade to give an answer to that question.

How do you account for the supply of foreign commodities being greater during the years which you have stated, than the usual supply?—I believe many of my former answers will have led to what strikes me to be the fair conclusion; namely, that the extraordinary advance in price, which took place partly from the character of the seasons from the close of 1816 to that of 1818, and partly from other causes; but chiefly from the extraordinary facilities to speculation, held out by the increase of circulating medium in 1817 and 1818, produced a very general overtrading, which is now felt co-operating with abundant seasons in the very large supply of most of the articles I have noticed.

Does the same system of overtrading continue?—I believe not.

Do you believe the present prices you have quoted are remunerating prices to the foreign producer or the importing merchant?—I believe that in many cases the prices may not be remunerating ones to either; but it is difficult to give any general answer where the particular commodities are so various.

If the ports of this kingdom were opened for the free importation of corn, might you

(8 May.)

you not import from Russia and other places in the north of Europe to an indefinite extent, whatever the prices in this market might be?—Very far, I believe, from an indefinite extent; a very small extra demand would occasion, in the first instance, at least, a very great increase of price, such as we witnessed at the close of 1816. As I have had occasion, in my former examinations, to lay considerable stress upon the prevalence of favourable or unfavourable seasons for a longer continuance than has been usually taken into consideration, I beg to be allowed to support that opinion by reference to two very high authorities, the one is Dr. Adam Smith, from whom I have made the following short extract; “The high price of corn during these ten or twelve years past (this was written about the year 1776) has indeed occasioned a suspicion that the real value of silver still continues to fall in the European market; this high price of corn, however, seems evidently to have been the effect of the extraordinary unfavourableness of the seasons, and ought therefore to be regarded, not as a permanent but as a transitory and occasional event. The seasons, for these ten or twelve years past, have been unfavourable through the greater part of Europe, and the disorders of Poland have very much increased the scarcity in all those countries which in dear years used to be supplied from that market; so long a course of bad seasons, though not a very common event, is by no means a singular one; and whoever has inquired much into the history of the prices of corn in former times, will be at no loss to recollect several other examples of the same kind. Ten years of extraordinary scarcity, besides, are not more wonderful than ten years of extraordinary plenty; the low price of corn from 1741 to 1750, both inclusive, may very well be set in opposition to its high price during these last eight or ten years. From 1741 to 1750, the average price of the quarter of nine bushels of the best wheat at Windsor market, it appears from the accounts of Eton college, was only 1*l.* 13*s.* 9½*d.* which is nearly 6*s.* 3*d.* below the average price of the sixty-four first years of the present century. The average price of the quarter of eight bushels of middle wheat come out according to this account to have been, during those ten years, only 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*”—Wealth of Nations, 3 edit. vol. 1. p. 310.

The other is Mr. Burke, who, in his “Thoughts and Details on Scarcity, 1795,” has the following passage, viz. “I beseech the government (which I take in the largest sense of the word, comprehending the two Houses of Parliament) seriously to consider that years of scarcity or plenty do not come alternately or at short intervals, but in pretty long cycles and irregularly; and consequently that we cannot assure ourselves, if we take a wrong measure from the necessities of one season, but that the next and probably more, will drive us to the continuance of it.”

William Jacob, Esquire; called in; and Examined.

YOU occupy some land in Surrey and Kent, and farm it?—Yes; between three and four hundred acres I have unfortunately held for the last ten years.

William Jacob,
Esq.

The circumstance of your farming that land, has induced you to turn your attention to the interests of agriculture?—That, and other circumstances of a literary nature.

(8 May.)

During that period, have you visited the Continent with reference to agriculture?—I have, principally with that view.

What part of the Continent?—Holland, the whole of the north of Germany, up to the frontiers of Poland, and returned slowly through the middle of Germany and France.

Was your principal attention, during that residence on the Continent, directed to the state of the agriculture of the different countries through which you passed?—Principally; my associations were principally with noblemen who were both large owners and occupiers of land; and their amtmen, who are a kind of hereditary bailiffs, with judicial powers quite unknown here.

In what year was you on the Continent?—1819, till the beginning of 1820.

Have you had any means, since your return to England, of knowing what is the present state of agriculture in the parts you visited in 1819?—Yes; I have correspondents there, and I have seen in this country, one nobleman especially, a very large agriculturist on the banks of the Oder.

State to the Committee, what is the general state of agriculture in the countries to which your attention was directed, as to its being in a state of improvement or decline, in the first instance?—It has uniformly the marks of vast improvements, since I saw it twenty years ago.

As compared with the period when you visited the Continent last, and the period of twenty years preceding, there have been vast improvements in the agriculture of those countries?—Very great.

William Jacob,
Esq.

(8 May.)

To what do you ascribe that rapid improvement?—To the gradual increase of prices during those twenty years; in proportion as a greater number of men were in arms, they consumed a greater proportion of the more valuable productions; all the productions rose.

Then you ascribe it to the increased demand, growing partly out of the effect of the numerous armies which the people have sustained in those parts of the world?—Exactly so.

Was it in a state of progressive improvement, and were the prices rising when you visited it last?—No, they were then falling; they have fallen most excessively.

Have you reason to know, whether they have continued to fall since that period?—Yes, I have reason, as far as I can depend upon my correspondents, to believe they have continued to fall.

To what do you attribute this fluctuation?—To the excess of the supply beyond the demand.

Was this the effect of increased production or diminished demand, or of both?—Both I apprehend; it appears, that as long as the war continued there was an increased demand; but especially a most prodigious demand took place in every part of the Continent previous to the expedition of Buonaparte to Russia, as the inhabitants of the country knew that large armies were to be marched through them, which would be quartered upon them, and which they must provision, every one was anxious to lay in a large store of provisions, that they might not have to purchase at the moment the soldiers arrived; such stocks being provided beforehand, of course raised the prices very high, those high prices gave a stimulus to agriculture, and brought into cultivation land of so inferior a quality as to have been cultivated at a great loss under any other circumstances; another cause of the great demand for agricultural productions, arose from the best of lands all over the Continent being appropriated to grow articles, not of food, but of commerce, such as tobacco, indigo and various vegetables for the manufacture of sugar, and substitutes for coffee; when the war ceased and the ports were thrown open, the cultivation of those articles for trade generally ceased, or in a great degree, and as they were some of the very best lands, they were very naturally appropriated to the growth of corn, this increased quantity on hand, had in addition to it all these little petty stores, which were more or less in the hands of every family on the Continent, as a provision for the troops they expected to be quartered upon them; the whole of this instead of being consumed was returned to the market; besides that, in the mean time the cultivation of potatoes had been carried on to an extent very far beyond what is known in Great Britain, and in some countries almost equal to what is grown in Ireland; this forms the food therefore of the lower classes of people almost exclusively; the consequence of these circumstances has been a reduction of the prices of all agricultural produce very far below a remunerating price; at the same time it may be proper to remark, that the surplus produce of any individual or the whole mass of cultivators there, is considerably less than the whole mass of cultivators in this country.

Explain that?—The surplus produce of the whole mass of cultivators in those countries is considerably less than the surplus produce of the whole mass of cultivators in this country.

Do you mean by surplus produce the produce not consumed by the class of the community who raise it?—Exactly so; in this country about one-half of the community are providers of food, and therefore provide food for the whole. In most of the countries on the Continent, the providers of food are from four-fifths to nine-tenths of the whole population.

Is the Committee to understand by this statement, that the difference between this country and some of the countries on the Continent to which you refer is this, that in those countries, for instance, where nine-tenths of the population are exclusively engaged in agriculture, nine-tenths of the produce is generally consumed by that class, and only one-tenth is brought to market for the other classes, or for sale?—Yes.

But that in this country one-half of the produce is brought to market for the consumption of the classes not immediately connected with the agriculture of the country?—Yes; exactly so.

What inference do you draw in respect to the effect of this depression of prices upon the different countries of the Continent, as compared with this country, from the respective proportions in which their population is engaged in agriculture?—I beg to explain the last question before I answer this; it is not strictly true that only one-half of the produce of this country comes to market, because that which is sold to the labourers, even in agriculture, frequently comes to market first; on the Continent, almost

almost uniformly, the labourers are fed and receive very trifling money wages; here they almost uniformly have money wages, and therefore the quantity brought to market here must be a much greater share than one-half; if the foreign farmer has a surplus of ten per cent of his produce, and if he sells it for ten per cent loss, his loss upon his annual production would be one per cent; if the English farmer, who sells at least half his production, loses ten per cent upon that half, it will be twenty-five per cent, and, therefore, supposing the foreign farmer could grow corn at the same rate precisely with the English farmer, supposing both to sell at a loss, and exactly the same loss, the English farmer would lose twenty-five times as much as the foreign farmer.

What has been the effect upon the Continent of this great revulsion in the prices of agricultural produce since the year 1818?—The principal effect is, the great distress of the landholder, not of the farmer; almost all the nobility and gentry, in many parts of the Continent, are in a state of dreadful embarrassment; they do not draw the whole of their proceeds from their land in the form of money, as we do in this country, but in the form of services of various kinds, either of themselves or of their horses and cattle; in many cases the rent, instead of being paid in money, is paid in kind; sometimes in the form of tithes; to the farmer, therefore, who has little or nothing to send to market, and who pays his rent in the way I have described, the rise or the fall of prices is of very little importance in many countries. In His Majesty's dominions even, in much of the Russian territories, in Brunswick, and in Saxony, the greater part of what is brought to market comes from the landowners, or their hereditary bailiffs, or from the sovereign's estates, which they generally farm themselves, and which bear a very large proportion to the whole landed property of the country.

Then the immediate occupier of the land, and all the persons employed under him, are very little prejudiced by this fall of prices?—The smaller farmers, if they may be so called, are a kind of copyholders, or customary holders, paying, as I said before, rent partly in kind and services, whilst the landlords have the feed upon the land, after the corn of their tenant is carried; I am now principally confining my remarks to those countries from which we can derive the principal supply of corn.

The occupier of the land, however, is affected in his capital to whatever extent the fall in the money value of his stock has been the effect of this change in agriculture on the Continent?—Yes.

In whatever shape the rent is paid to the landlord in those countries, the effect has been principally felt by him?—Principally so.

To what degree has that effect been produced?—It is difficult to separate the effect produced by that depreciation, and the effect produced by the former circumstances of the war; during the march of the whole of those immense armies that went to attack Russia, the troops in the service of France were quartered upon private individuals, generally in proportion to the extent of their houses; the nobility and gentry, calculating upon a great demand to supply those troops so quartered upon them, were obliged not only to hoard their own provisions, but even buy more, and that at an enhanced price; their tenants saved from their share all they could, and by practising a wonderful degree of parsimony, were enabled to supply their landlords and the inhabitants of the towns with some store of provisions, in consequence of which, the tenants at that time became richer and the landlords poorer.

What is the present situation of the landlords in those countries?—Their estates are generally mortgaged, and a great many for sale, and there are no purchasers.

Do they get any rent?—Very little; nothing but the clipping of their Merino flocks, which they now are selling very low.

Is the Committee to understand, that all the corn which has been raised in those countries, as far as your observation goes in the two or three last years, has not commanded a price adequate to the expense of growing?—Certainly it has not; most undoubtedly.

Has the price been materially below a remunerating price?—Where the surplus is so very small, it is difficult to calculate what a remunerating price is, and therefore I would, rather than give my own opinion, trust to those who have made calculations on the spot, whose calculations are more likely to be accurate than those which I or any foreigner could make.

Have you any such calculations?—I have.

Have you them with you?—No, I have not; they are among my memoranda.

You have stated that Holland and France are two of the countries you visited?—Yes.

Is the state of agriculture in Holland and France, similar to what you have described

William Jacob,
Esq.

(8 May.)

described existing in the north of Germany?—Certainly; in all my conversation with Dutch farmers and landlords, I found they were complaining that they were losing by every thing they sold; the feudal system does not prevail there as it does in Germany.

In those countries the population not engaged in agriculture, bears a very considerable proportion to the whole population in Holland, Flanders and France?—I am not now speaking of Holland exclusively, which contains little more than two millions, but the kingdom of the Netherlands, containing six or seven millions.

A considerable proportion of the population of Holland is not agricultural?—In Holland they are not so, but in Flanders they are so.

What is the state of distress in the kingdom of the Netherlands, and those countries where a different system of farming prevails from that of the north of Germany, and where the proportion of the population employed in agriculture is different?—Wherever I went I heard bitter complaints, particularly on the eastern side of Holland, from Utrecht to the frontiers of Westphalia, which is generally poorish kind of land, a great portion of which was brought into cultivation, during the war, at a considerable expense, but which has lowered the price not only of its own produce, but all other produce to such an extent, that it was selling for a considerable loss.

Were those poor districts declining in their cultivation?—I did not perceive any, nor is it likely they should decline so soon.

Do you think they must soon decline?—Almost all the occupiers told me they must; that they were losing by them.

Did you find the same complaints in the Netherlands and in France?—I can only speak of France between the frontiers of Germany and Paris; the other parts I went through with too much rapidity, to enable me to form an opinion.

What is the state of agriculture in that part of France?—Bitterly complaining; I attended the markets of several of the towns, and conversed with the farmers; I found they were all complaining, contrasting the prices they had obtained three or four years before, with the prices they then obtained; assuring me they lost considerably by it. Not knowing what questions might be asked, I have not brought any memorandums I made at the time with me.

What was the difference in the prices of which they complained, and the prices to which they referred as better times?—At one town, St. Avold, I was assured that the depreciation had been about one-half from the highest period to that time.

Was the general fall so great?—Not to the same extent any where else.

What was the effect upon rents in those countries?—The leases, which are short, are all running out, and they expect to renew their short leases at a great deduction from the rents they have paid.

Was that the expectation in Holland and Flanders likewise?—Yes, universally.

Were the crops of the period to which you refer, considered as abundant in those countries?—They were considered good crops as compared with the crops they had gathered in ten or fifteen years before; and I could see that they were much better than I had been accustomed to see, but far inferior to our crops.

Do you attribute that increase to a better state of farming, or to more favourable seasons?—To a better state of farming, arising from the high prices they had previously obtained.

What do you consider will be the result upon the Continent, of this general state of prices, that are not adequate to the expense of cultivation?—The same as must be the case here; a diminution of the cultivation, and the ceasing to cultivate lands of inferior qualities.

And also a general diminution of the rents?—Yes, where rents are paid in the form of money; which is not the case in the countries from whence the corn is principally supplied.

Then your idea of the Continent is, that the poorer lands brought into cultivation by the high prices which prevailed before the peace, and which are most expensive to the cultivator, compared to their returns, will cease to be cultivated?—They will go out of cultivation till corn attains a remunerating price.

You have stated that their cultivation abroad is inferior to that of England; in what proportion, upon lands of equal qualities, should you state that to be?—As five to seven, upon land of the same quality, and the same portion of seed. They would increase five, and we should increase seven.

To what do you attribute the superior productiveness of agriculture here?—To that which is perhaps the great source of our riches, the uncertainty of our climate; we can cultivate turnips here, which they cannot do any where else; they improve

improve the soil, and all the subsequent crops are better for it; they cannot do it upon the Continent; we have summer showers, they have not, and their turnips die away.

Can they not grow turnips in Germany?—Not to any extent; you may see them in patches, it is only where they can water them; and in consequence of not being able to grow turnips, as we can, they are driven for a fallow crop either to grow potatoes or flax, which are exhausting crops.

Do you not attribute a part of the superiority of English agriculture, to the superior capitals of this country?—Certainly it requires a greater capital to cultivate with turnips, than with potatoes or flax.

Are the farms upon the Continent divided into equally commodious subdivisions as in England?—In some countries; it depends upon circumstances; the finest cultivation on the Continent is on the demesne lands of princes or nobles, or gentry, as we should call them; and there they can to a certain extent follow our system; the demesnes are often very extensive, a thousand or fifteen hundred acres, with the addition of twenty or thirty thousand acres divided into copyholds, granted out to copyholders.

There are some, you state, of the same kind in France?—Yes, but the whole of the feudal rights are abolished.

You continue to have correspondence with those countries; has your correspondent stated an increased state of distress or difficulty since 1819, or has it been improving?—I have one correspondent, secretary to the Agricultural Society of Saxony; my correspondence with him has been upon other subjects, but I observe in one of his letters, a remark that “our agricultural affairs are in a worse state than when you examined certain lands with me.”

Have any measures been taken by the sovereigns of the countries so distressed, with a view to the relief of agriculture?—They have not it in their power to do much, but they have as far as they can; I believe almost all the continental sovereigns have passed laws enabling the peasants or the citizens to purchase those lands which are of knightly tenure, and which could only be held by nobles.

Are you aware of any other measures of relief that have been resorted to?—No, I know of no others; at one period the king of Prussia speculated in corn, and purchased considerably, because it was very low.

What was the result of that speculation?—I do not know, I never heard the result, but I dare say he lost a great deal of money; it was merely from humanity, I believe, that he made the purchases, when the peasantry were overloaded with corn.

Have there been any particular legislative measures taken in France?—There is a law similar to ours.

Has there been any later scheme?—Nothing later than the permanent duty with a graduated scale.

Supposing the trade in corn between this country and the Continent had been free, would not the effect of any general revulsion in the prices, such as you describe to have taken place in Europe since the year 1818, have principally fallen upon the countries having the poorest lands in cultivation, and the smallest capitals with which to carry on that cultivation?—No; I apprehend the worst effect would be found in the richest countries; the richer the country is, the higher the prices of articles of the first necessity always are, and generally in proportion to their riches, and in case of a universal surplus, it would naturally flow to a country where there was the highest, which would necessarily be the richest country, and therefore the immediate effect would be more forcibly felt there.

Supposing another abundant harvest in this country, or a succession of abundant harvests, and the prices to continue what they now are, or to decline still further; upon what part of the land now in cultivation, would the effect of these low prices be principally felt?—Upon those lands that require the greatest expenditure in labour.

May not the richest countries have the poorest lands in cultivation?—For a very short period, if at all.

Do you think, that in a new country, thinly inhabited, land equally poor will be cultivated, as in rich populous and old countries?—Certainly not.

How do you reconcile this answer with your last?—I see nothing contradictory.

Would you not call such new country thinly inhabited, a poor country as compared with the old?—It would be necessary to make a distinction between the soil and inhabitants.

You have stated, that your attention has been principally turned to those countries from which England derives its principal supplies of corn, and that in some of those countries, nine-tenths of the population is employed exclusively in agriculture; are

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you able to state what proportion of bread corn any of those countries could supply, in the event of the ports of this country being opened to importation?—I have made calculations which it would be a long process to explain; and the steps of which I have not with me, not knowing what questions would be asked; but it appears to me, none of those countries have ever been able to export as much as three days of their own consumption.

In stating this proportion, do you confine it to wheat?—To bread, corn, wheat and rye, principally.

When you state three days consumption is the greatest proportion they could export, is that calculation formed with reference to a state of very high prices in this country, affording to the grower in those countries, a great inducement to economize upon their own growth, and make that exportation as large as possible?—The quantity which they can dispose of, may vary from one to three days of their consumption.

Are you speaking of an average crop?—Yes, their exportable power.

Have you reduced at all, to any specific quantities, the proportion you have stated?—It was for other purposes than any here, I was induced to make the calculations; for purposes of a literary nature; and therefore I cannot now repeat the process; but I recollect most clearly, that on referring to the amount of exports from the custom-house at Dantzic, for a series of years, my calculations were corroborated by those accounts.

As compared with what?—My calculations were corroborated by the reports of the custom-house at Dantzic, of the quantity of corn exported.

What would be the largest export under the circumstances that have been stated, in number of quarters?—The largest number we have known is about 500,000 quarters.

That answer is confined to Dantzic only?—Yes.

What should you say from the whole of the ports of the Baltic?—Not altogether more than that, as far as it is their own growth.

Including Russia?—Yes; exclusive of that which comes by the Vistula; there is very little surplus.

Assuming that the present accumulated stocks at Dantzic and other exporting ports of the north of Europe had been disposed of, and that the trade in corn, between England and the continent of Europe, was to be free from the time that the crops of the ensuing harvest become the subject of mercantile speculation, under that free trade, what do you conceive would be the import into this country?—That is more a mercantile question than a statistical one, and I had no mercantile views, therefore I am not so well calculated to answer that as many merchants in this town.

What quantity of food would the labour of one man produce in those countries, beyond what is necessary for his own consumption?—I have never generalized it; I apprehend the labour of one man does in fact produce but little more than his own sustenance.

To what country do you confine your observations?—To those countries which export their corn down the Vistula.

Supposing an average crop all over Europe, in the present state of growth in Europe, and the trade free, do you think half a million of quarters would come into this country?—From the whole of Europe it might; the harvests of the north of Europe vary so much from those of the south.

The question assumes an average?—That is a very minute quantity, as much as that would come certainly.

Do you suppose two millions would come?—No, not in the present state of cultivation; I do not apprehend the whole world could supply us with three weeks consumption; I do not believe that the surplus corn of all Europe, which could be sent here at high prices, is equal to the difference between the stocks in hand now, in the possession of the millers and the cornfactors, and that which they held ten years ago.

Do you mean that the stocks now, are less than they were ten years ago?—Yes; and in amount equal to the greatest quantity which they could get from all the world.

Upon a comparison of the distress, which the Committee take for granted, you must have observed, prevails in this country among the occupiers of lands, and the distress you observed on the Continent in 1819; which should you say is the most severe?—I would say it is the most severe here; but then I must make a remark, that you have a class of men who are a species of capitalists, and who exist no where else, in the occupiers of land; it exists in France only to a small extent.

Do

Do you think they will be capitalists long if the present prices remain?—No, certainly not.

What in your opinion are the causes of the present distressed state of agriculture?—The common cause, the supply being beyond the demand; the production exceeding the consumption.

The production of this country itself?—Yes; and the surplus of all Europe impending here in the case of a small advance.

Do you not think that the total ruin of the occupiers of land in this country is quite inevitable if an alteration does not take place?—Yes; but an alteration must take place before they are ruined.

To what do you attribute this excess of production beyond the demand?—The stimulus of former high prices, a very natural cause.

And to the falling off of the demand?—I should say so if I had not seen the returns of the amount of taxes upon spirits, beer and things of that kind, which makes me hesitate.

What is your remedy for the present state of things?—I have no doubt it will find a remedy in a very few years; but then, perhaps, the remedy will be worse than the disease.

Would not the immense importations, amounting to three millions of quarters, that took place in the year 1819, have an effect to depress the price?—A very injurious effect upon the holders of corn or the growers.

In your opinion could any alteration of the present corn law raise the price of corn at present?—Yes; I think it is possible.

What alteration could effect such a rise?—The having the same inducements to a free trade in English corn as there used to be before the operation of the warehousing clause in the bill of 1814; the operation of that warehousing clause has had this effect of withdrawing from the market the English corn; the great speculators by their operations maintained an equable price through the whole year. I believe it was the custom, formerly, amongst the great dealers in corn, to send their agents to examine the state of the crops, and from the reports made by them, to make estimates of what ought to be the average price of the year; by their means a balance was produced between the buyer and the seller; if the markets fell below their estimated average, they purchased, if they rose above, they sold; and by these natural means, a proper balance between production and consumption was maintained with tolerable equability through the whole of the year; the effect now is, that no wise man will employ his capital in speculations in English wheat. Suppose it to be at 60 s. a quarter and foreign wheat at 30 s. a quarter, neither in one case or the other, will the speculator calculate upon selling, until it reaches 80 s. In the one case the profit upon the speculation would be 33 per cent, in the other case 165 per cent. If it should be supposed that persons would rather be disposed to speculate in articles where some returns could be made at any time by a small sacrifice, rather than invest their money in operations whose termination may be removed to several distant years; it may be remarked, that the difference in probable profit is so vastly disproportioned, and the risk of that profit being long delayed, so small, as to outweigh the fears of the most timid adventurer, especially considering that usually one year in five, either from the inclemency of the weather at harvest or from some previous bad seasons, the price of wheat in this country reaches the price at which the ports are opened.

You think, then, that the warehousing system is favourable to capitalists and speculators?—No; I am afraid they have not found it so in fact; I believe they have lost.

Do you think it hurtful to the agriculturist?—Yes, I have stated that.

Are you of opinion that the inconveniences which you ascribe to the warehousing clause of the last Act, can be obviated by a simple repeal of it, in a state of peace?—I think a simple repeal would be better than nothing; it appears to me that the present state of agriculture is a temporary thing, and it is impossible it can long endure, because production and consumption will meet.

In what way do you think the repeal of that clause would obviate the inconveniences which you apprehend arise from the want of a disposition to speculate in British corn, supposing all the other parts of the Act to remain unaltered?—The inducements to speculate in British corn would arise from the greater security the speculators would have in having their property on this side of the water rather than the other.

Do you consider that the risk of having corn at Antwerp, Rotterdam, or Amsterdam, would be considered a material difficulty to speculators, if the prospect of profit were in the proportion that you have stated of 160 to 35?—I think a great deal of this corn which is here, is sent by consignments from foreign houses, who draw upon

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the houses to whom it is consigned for a certain portion of their value, or on account of speculators; that which is held on account of speculators might be held by some speculators on the other side of the water, but the money that is advanced upon the security of that corn, would not be advanced by the commission merchants here, unless it was here, so that they could be assured of their commissions.

Would there not be persons in Holland to make advances upon the same inducements?—Not upon the prospect of being restricted to send it to England.

If the system of warehousing was confined to the other side of the water, and not extended to this, would not the dealers in corn be withheld in speculating so largely, by the idea that in all probability the navigation of the Scheldt, the Elbe, and the other rivers, might be impeded by frost?—In all instances except the Scheldt, which is seldom impeded by frost.

Would it not be desirable, for the sake of the British agriculturalist, to encourage speculation in British corn, in preference to foreign corn?—Certainly.

If there was sufficient capital in this country to speculate in British corn as well as in foreign warehoused corn, then, you think, the price of corn would rise?—I think there is sufficient capital; that is supposing a case which, I believe, does exist.

If then there was a fair probability of corn rising to 80 s. would there be any deficiency of capital for the purposes of speculating in British corn?—I am not quite sure that there would; I was going to state, that the whole of the capital now embarked or locked up in foreign corn does not exceed, perhaps, one million, which is a very trifling sum for even the great corn merchants, but it is nothing at all if you include in it the little corn merchant and the miller; but the great corn merchant's coming into the market, has precisely the same effect as one of the great men at the stock exchange going there and buying a small quantity of stock. Markets are generally nothing but the result of opinion, and if the great speculators went to Mark-lane and bought but a few thousand, or a few hundred quarters of wheat, the smaller ones would follow their example; that would be communicated by the succeeding post to every town in the kingdom, and its effect upon the country corn dealers and upon the country millers, would be very far beyond the effect of the operation of the corn merchant upon the exchange of Mark-lane.

If, then, there was a fair prospect of improvement in price, there would not be wanting either speculators or money in the purchase of British corn?—Certainly not; only where there is a choice, then you exercise the judgment. You would rather buy foreign corn that would produce 165, than English corn that would produce only 33.

The present price of British corn being somewhat above 50 s. do you think that the capitalist would prefer to vest his money in foreign corn under the following prospect, namely, a reasonable expectation that British corn might rise to some price between 70 s. and 80 s. in the course of the present year; but that that price might not reach 80 s. which would alone admit of foreign corn being brought into the market?—That resolves itself into a metaphysical kind of question; nothing but a deficiency can make it rise to 75 s. and such deficiency would make it rise to 85 s.

Was there a considerable rise in the price of British corn between March and August 1820?—Yes, very considerable.

Which would have been the best speculation at any time between March and August 1820, one in British corn or in foreign corn?—As it has turned out, in British corn; but it might, and probably will yet, be best in foreign corn.

Veneris, 11^o die Maii, 1821.

THOMAS SHERLOCK GOOCH, ESQUIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.

[*The following letter, received from Mr. Solly, was delivered in by the Chairman, and read:*]

" SIR,

" THE experience I have had in the corn trade has confirmed the opinion, that it would be more for the interest of the grower of corn at home and in Prussia, if the importation into this country was at all times allowed at a certain fixed rate of duty, which might be so regulated as to compensate for the greater expense of cultivation which the British farmer necessarily is at.

" I found

" I found this opinion—

" On the supposition, that it is desirable that a foreign corn trade should, to a certain extent, be upheld as a resource in cases of deficiency in this country.

" On the fact, that the regular corn trade of the Baltic consists of a certain surplus, principally of wheat, which is not the grain in general use there.

" That the countries which are in the habit of exporting wheat are limited in their means of increasing that supply.

" 1st. By the nature of the country, which, in Prussia, consists of a large proportion not adapted to the culture of wheat, but of poor sandy soil; and, in Poland, of extensive forests kept up as a branch of trade.

" 2d. From the necessity of so large a proportion of land being cultivated for the use and consumption of the inhabitants, as, for instance, Prussia contains 5,000 square miles, or 67,760,000 English acres, with 11,000,000 of inhabitants; so that, if Prussia was able and did grow the wheat requisite for the consumption of England, then the soil of England would be required to grow corn, and find fuel for Prussia.

" By the present system, the surplus wheat of the Baltic is hoarded up to the extent of two or more years export in the granaries of England, to be poured into the market at once. The period at which the opening the ports generally takes place, is about or soon after harvest time; not because the new harvest is deficient, but in consequence of the prices of the past weeks having, from the circumstances of diminished supply, risen to a certain height. If the surplus foreign corn might be imported at all times at a duty, it would be imported and brought into the market, or kept out of it, in proportion to the encouragement the prices of the market held out; it would be gradually absorbed in the consumption and stock of the country.

" This surplus of wheat is one of the means the Pole and the Prussian has to pay for the colonial produce, and for the manufactures they take from us, which in return affords to our manufacturing classes the power of increasing their consumption of agricultural produce of a different description.

I have the honour to be,

Curzon Street,

May 3.

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

" Edward Solly."

"To the Honourable the Chairman of the
Committee on Agriculture."

[The following extract was delivered in and read:]

" On the 7th or 9th March of the present year, it was stated in the Parliament of Great Britain, that wheat might be grown in Poland, at 8s. per quarter, and that 12s. per quarter would be an ample remunerating price.

" To refute this mistake, is the object of the present; knowing that it cannot be the intention of the Committee on agricultural distress, to rest the issue of their report upon an erroneous statement.

" It would be easy to prove the fallacy of this assertion, by taking a general view of the present state of agricultural distress throughout all Europe; I have, however, taken some pains to adduce even more undeniable proof.

" The average prices of grain in 1820, were

For wheat 42/8 - - for rye 24/2 - - for barley 18/2 - - for oats 15/10 p' qr.

1821 d° 37/ - - - d° - 18/2 - - - d° - 12/10 - - - d° 10/ „

" Which shows that our prices have in the last twelve months again declined considerably; recurring to the prices of the last 49 years, from 1770 to 1819, both inclusive, (leaving out the year 1813, in which prices of wheat rose to 12,000 f. per last, on account of the siege), it is found that the averages exceed those of the last two years by far, having been,

For wheat 45/4 - - for rye 27/2 - - for barley 20/10 - - for oats 13/10 p' qr.

" All these calculations are correctly made at the average exchange of 24f. Dantzic money in gold, or 18f. per currency, which is about equal.

" This statement shows at once, that the present low prices cannot pay the land proprietor for interest, taxes, labour, &c.; and that, therefore, they cannot be looked upon as *standard prices*, for it must be recollected, that since the year 1770, the price of labour, the taxes and all other necessities of life, have gradually been doubled, and in some instances trebled; well as this is understood to have been the case in Great Britain, it must not be supposed that the Continent has not undergone corresponding changes, as the same causes have operated with us. The system of

paper money having been adopted by nearly every power in Europe, it has of course raised the value of all the commodities of life.

"From a calculation made out by an eminent practical land proprietor in an adjoining province, it appears, that if land could be had for NOTHING, and *reckoning upon no casualties*, such as a failure of the crop, extraordinary taxes, requisitions, the quartering of troops and others, the mere producing prices of grain would come to

300*f.* Prussian currency, per last of wheat or 31/9 per quarter.

150*f.* " " per d° of rye or 15/10 "

120*f.* " " per d° of barley or 12/8 "

90*f.* " " per d° of oats or 9/6 "

"To these must be added, according to the distance and description of grain, from 4/ to 6/ per quarter for bringing the produce to market, and incidental expenses on the same; for uniformity's sake, I have made this calculation at the exchange of 18*f.* per currency like the former ones, although the present exchange is 21*f.* 9*gs.*

"It appears to me, that when agricultural distress is felt throughout the principal empires in Europe, that one or two states cannot be exempt from it, or if such was the case, on account of the failure of the crop in those particular countries, their prices would soon be brought down again by abundant supplies from their neighbours; Poland and Prussia have not been in this predicament, but have had average crops ever since 1817, during which period Great Britain, Holland, Spain, and Portugal have had little or no occasion for our supplies, yet, notwithstanding, prices have kept much higher with us than has been represented in the House of Commons to be an ample remunerating price; what is the cause of this? Is it not the impossibility of growing wheat at so miserable a price? And is it not rationally to be supposed, that when there is a superfluity of grain in every quarter of the globe, that prices must be under their standard value? Our government, to prevent, as they hoped, the utter ruin of the agriculturists, had, in the year 1814, recourse to a very strong measure; the king issued a decree called the Indulgence Act, that no land-proprietor should be sued for interest and capital. This act is now expiring, and already above an hundred estates are under sequestration, and will be sold by public auction, as the occupiers have no means of satisfying their creditors even for interest, no more being demanded of them.

"In Poland and Russia the land-proprietors are even worse situated than those in Prussia, and at least rival in poverty. They have not even the pecuniary means of bringing their produce to a market, but are generally obliged to give up their property to some Polish Jew (with a view to have it brought to Dantzic) against the enormous interest of two or three per cent per month.

"The present prices of wheat in Poland, Russia, and Gallicia are,

On the river Bug - - 12 to 14 Polish guilders per korcez.

In Gallicia - - - 12 16 - - d° - - d°

On the Vistula and Warsaw 18 24 - - d° - - d°

"Which averages 16*f.* Polish per korcez, and is equal to about 25*s.* 4*d.* per quarter. The expenses of bringing grain down to Dantzic are from 12*s.* to 20*s.* per quarter, according to the distance. In these expenses the duties in Russia, Poland, Prussia, and Austria are included, no allowance however is made for risk of navigation and the quantity destroyed during a passage of four to six weeks in flat bottomed uncovered vessels open to the inclemencies of the weather.

"Can any man suppose, from the above statements, and the facts I have related, that Prussia and Poland do not alike suffer from the pressure of the times, and that prices of grain have *not* attained their lowest possible rates; and yet they are much above what had been stated in the House of Commons.

"The present severe restrictive system of Great Britain carries ruin to Prussia and her neighbours with it, and however insignificant Prussia and other states may appear to the legislators of Great Britain, it must be recollected, that these countries draw an immense quantity of colonial produce and manufactured goods from Great Britain, which quantity must, however, decrease from year to year, in proportion to the general impoverishment of said countries, and must, in a few years, cease entirely; for is it at all possible, that Prussia can continue to draw colonials, salt, porter, &c. &c. against payment of *gold and silver ONLY*, whilst the produce of her soil remains excluded; Prussia must sink back into her primeval state, and Great Britain must also, in some measure, feel the effects of such a change."

"E. W. Grade."

"Dantzic, 15th April 1821."

N° 1.
Dantzic, average prices in Dantzic money, in gold,
per last of 56½ Scheffel.

N° 2.
Dantzic, average prices in sterling
money, per q^r, free on board, calcu-
lated at the exchange of 24*f*. Dantzic
currency, or 18*f*. Pⁿ currency.

Year	Wheat.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.
Prices in Dantzic money, in gold.				
1770	<i>f</i> 318	<i>f</i> 191	<i>f</i> 140	<i>f</i> 117
1771	418	335	225	165
1772	458	352	-	-
1773	485	275	185	102
1774	432	223	165	115
1775	458	283	180	120
1776	370	237	198	119
1777	303	190	157	116
1778	320	179	161	121
1779	295	163	145	105
1780	265	153	129	94
1781	338	213	181	125
1782	350	252	190	132
1783	368	206	186	133
1784	390	236	210	142
1785	403	236	210	146
1786	395	284	222	148
1787	388	319	205	147
1788	395	271	200	136
1789	568	318	220	155
1790	542	324	224	165
1791	425	245	198	126
1792	393	241	195	121
1793	450	294	225	148
1794	493	327	235	-
1795	695	478	-	-
1796	660	260	199	138
1797	440	219	177	137
1798	453	256	197	130
1799	555	363	266	-
1800	873	511	-	-
1801	885	432	346	-
1802	660	411	274	-
1803	583	392	279	-
1804	663	363	271	-
1805	858	537	365	-
1806	758	-	-	-
1807	600	-	-	-
1808	743	-	-	-
1809	530	218	182	145
1810	523	212	-	-
1811	375	125	-	-
1812	483	357	240	-
1813	-	-	-	-
Prices in Prussian currency.				
1814	450	265	174	162
1815	425	281	205	171
1816	608	332	235	175
1817	840	438	282	198
1818	640	334	276	194
1819	436	274	214	164
1820	373	206	150	134

Wheat.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.
28/5	17/6	13/6	10/10
36/4	29/	20/3	14/9
39/6	30/4	-	-
41/8	24/2	17/1	9/8
37/6	20/1	15/6	10/9
39/6	24/10	16/8	11/1
32/6	21/2	18/1	11/
27/3	17/5	14/10	10/10
28/7	16/7	15/2	11/2
26/7	15/4	13/11	9/11
24/2	14/6	12/7	9/1
30/	19/3	16/9	11/6
30/11	22/4	17/5	12/1
32/5	18/9	17/2	12/2
34/2	21/1	19/1	12/10
35/2	21/1	19/1	13/2
34/6	24/11	20/	13/4
34/	27/8	18/8	13/3
34/6	23/11	18/3	12/5
48/3	27/7	19/10	13/11
46/2	28/1	20/2	14/8
36/11	21/10	18/1	11/7
34/4	21/6	17/10	11/2
38/11	25/9	20/3	13/4
42/3	28/4	21/	-
58/4	40/4	-	-
55/7	23/	18/2	12/6
38/1	19/9	16/5	12/5
39/2	22/8	18/	11/11
47/3	31/2	23/6	-
72/6	42/11	-	-
73/5	36/8	26/10	-
55/7	35/	24/1	-
49/5	33/6	24/6	-
55/10	31/2	23/11	-
71/3	45/	31/4	-
63/4	-	-	-
50/10	-	-	-
62/2	-	-	-
45/3	19/8	16/10	13/1
44/8	19/2	-	-
32/11	12/4	-	-
41/6	30/9	21/5	-
-	-	-	-
50/10	30/4	20/9	18/9
48/2	32/1	24/	19/8
67/6	37/6	27/2	20/1
92/1	48/8	32/2	22/6
70/11	37/8	31/6	22/1
49/4	31/4	25/	18/11
42/8	24/2	18/2	15/9

Aggregate average price, from ten to ten years, in sterling money,
per quarter, in Dantzic:

	Wheat.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.
From 1770 to 1779 - - - -	33/9	21/8	16/1	11/1
— 1780 „ 1789 - - - -	33/10	22/1	17/11	12/4
— 1790 „ 1799 - - - -	43/8	26/3	19/3	12/6
— 1800 „ 1809 - - - -	60/	34/10	25/1	13/1
— 1810 „ 1819 - - - -	55/4	31/1	26/	20/4
Aggregate average price of 49 years per Winchester quarter - - free on board.	45/4	27/2	20/10	13/10

William Jacob, Esq.; again Called in; and Examined.

*William Jacob,
Esq.*

(11 May.)

AT the time when agriculture flourished on the Continent did all other trades flourish; was there a general and increased demand for other commodities?—I apprehend there was; but not having been there at that period, and not having directed my attention so much to that as to the agricultural subject, I cannot speak to it with the same decision.

Is it your opinion then, that agriculture did not flourish at the expense of other trades?—Not having accurately ascertained the state of other trades I can scarcely reply to that question with the requisite certainty.

In consequence of the depression of agriculture on the Continent, is capital now withdrawn from agriculture for the purpose of being employed in other occupations?—I cannot answer that question.

Have you any knowledge of the rate of profits made by the farmers on the Continent?—No; I have been informed that they have paid interest at the rate of two or three per cent per month for money, and consequently can now have no profits, but he has of losses.

What is the food of the labourers in those countries whose corn is exported by the Vistula?—In general it is rye; of late years, considerable portions of potatoes have been cultivated and eaten by the peasantry, and a considerable quantity, in some places, of buck wheat; the quantity of animal food they consume is very small, and almost uniformly preserved, either in the form of bacon or sausages.

Have you any knowledge of the proportions in which the whole produce of a farm is divided between the three classes of landlord, farmer and labourer?—No, certainly not; my evidence will show, that the landlord's share being contributed principally in the labour of his tenants, servants and horses, partly in produce, and a very small proportion in money, it will be extremely difficult to discriminate the different portions of each.

What is the effect of a good season and an abundant crop on the price of corn; will the price fall in proportion to the increased quantity?—Much beyond that.

How much beyond that?—It is impossible to ascertain; if the demand be 100 and the supply be 105, the depreciation of prices will be much more than five per cent; but if the supply be 110 and the demand still but 100, it will probably be more than 30 per cent below the former prices; surplus quantities increase depreciation in a compound ratio; I will illustrate that by a reference to one year, which I happen to have taken by chance, for the whole exports of Russia in the productions of its soil; it amounted in cattle, to 11,581,613 roubles; from the produce of the plough, 31,640,459; from the mines, 4,738,852; from the fisheries, 842,552; from the woods and forests, 2,826,661; from the chase, 2,750,234; from the beehives, 531,341; making together, 54,891,412 roubles; this was the surplus production of that country, a country containing 45,000,000 of inhabitants; that, divided by roubles, at the present price of roubles, would be not more than 1 s. per head for each individual. When the war between this country and Russia broke out, the stoppage of the exports of the productions of the soil, of the value of 1 s. to each individual, caused such a glut in all the markets of Russia, as to create a great depreciation and universal discontent, and to compel the Emperor of Russia, at length, to resist Buonaparte's continental system.

Do you know what the fall in the price of corn was in Russia, on that occasion?—No, I do not, without reference to papers at my home.

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In Holland and France, are the labourers paid in kind, in the same manner as in the north of Germany?—Principally in kind; as they are chiefly fed in the houses of the occupiers.

Do you think that the agriculture of the Netherlands and Germany would be greatly extended, if the ports in this country were permanently open for the reception of corn, free of all duty?—Not considerably.

Would the price rise considerably, under such circumstances?—Certainly, it would rise; how considerably, it is impossible to say.

Would the rise be permanent?—That would depend on circumstances which no human being can foresee.

Does not the price of corn, in every country, depend upon the cost of producing it?—Certainly; in a series of years it must.

Would the cost of producing corn be at all increased on the Continent, in consequence of our ports being open?—Not immediately; but ultimately, and, perhaps, speedily.

Have you formed any opinion of the necessary or remunerating price of corn in Holland, Flanders and Germany?—No, I have not; I have looked to quantities more than prices.

In case of ceasing to cultivate the land of an inferior quality, in this country, what would be done with the capital withdrawn from the land?—In case of suddenly ceasing, the capital must be lost; perhaps, if it was gradually withdrawn, the loss might be even greater in some cases.

Could not that part of the capital, which consisted of the wages of labour and of cattle, carts and other stock, be removed from the land, under all circumstances?—Yes; but I did not consider those as investments on the land.

What would be done with that part of capital, which you now acknowledge could be removed?—If it were converted into money, the owners of it might apply it to any purposes they pleased.

Of course to some beneficial purpose?—To some purposes which they would suppose to be beneficial.

Would there not be a great loss in disposing of such articles as carts, ploughs, and agricultural horses, in case of a falling agriculture?—That would depend upon whether the diminution in them, was more extensive and rapid, than the consumption by the annual wear and tear.

There might, however, be a loss in money value, without its being any real loss to the country?—Possibly.

You state the difference of production between the lands of England, and those of the Continent, is as 7 to 5; what do you think are the proportions of rent on those lands?—For the reasons I have before stated, it is difficult to ascertain what the proportion of rent is in the great corn countries which border on or are connected with the Vistula; in France, we can ascertain nearly the average rent of lands; but it is scarcely possible to do so under a kind of feudal system, which prevails in the countries from which the greater quantity of corn is exported, or from America.

The lands then in those countries are cultivated by the proprietors?—By customary holders, a sort of hereditary tenants, who to a certain extent are proprietors under the lords of the rittergat, or as we should call it the manor.

You stated that as a measure of relief, the King of Prussia had permitted peasants to purchase land of a knightly tenure; what relief could that give to the agricultural distress?—As I stated before, many of the peasants had from the high prices of produce accumulated money, which they were enabled to invest in land. I did not state that as bearing at all upon the question of production; but as only incidentally showing, that the foundation was laid for a new order of society, or rather for a new class in society, similar to the farmers of this country.

Inasmuch as such a measure would lead to an increased production of corn, would it not rather tend to aggravate than relieve agricultural distress?—It would certainly do so if it did not increase consumers, with a rapidity equal to that with which it increased productions.

You were asked on the former day, whether the richest countries might not have the poorest land in cultivation?—They would not continue long to be the poorest; the most authentic records we have of the state of agriculture in any part of the world are those of the Netherlands, from about the year 1180; at that time, some of those soils which are now the most productive of any in Europe were the most sterile; and by the application of capital and labour, and principally by an other-
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wise unproductive kind of labour, that of the monks of the two great abbies of Tongerlo and Everbode, the richest soil in Europe has been created there.

In such a country as England, if the population were greatly to increase, and we were to depend upon our own land for a supply, should we not be driven to the cultivation of very poor lands?—Undoubtedly we have been driven or led to the cultivation of very poor lands, which have thereby become very rich lands within the present generation. Whoever remembers the state of the north-east part of the county of Norfolk around Mr. Coke's estate, will recollect, that thirty or forty years ago, wheat could scarcely be grown at all, and very scanty crops of barley and oats; whereas that poor land, has now become some of the most productive in wheat and barley of any in this island.

Can all poor land in the country be made as productive as the best and most fertile land by the employment of capital?—Undoubtedly.

Without any exception?—With scarcely any exception, only that in certain situations, the capital that must be expended to make it fertile, will be much more than its worth after its fertility is accomplished.

It is still your opinion, that in the richest countries, the poorest lands will not be in actual cultivation?—Till the demand for food be greater than can be supplied from the rich lands, or from the neighbouring lands.

What is the lowest rent paid for land employed in cultivation in England?—I cannot answer that question.

Can you answer it within a few shillings?—I should think four or five shillings an acre.

Would not that land go out of cultivation if the price of corn considerably fell?—It would either go out of cultivation, or the rent must be reduced to almost nothing.

Then as soon as the price of corn fell, so much as to afford no rent, that land must necessarily go out of cultivation, not affording the usual profits to the farmer?—Certainly,

Have you not seen in the kingdom of the United Netherlands, lands in cultivation quite as poor in quality as any you have seen in this country?—Certainly poorer lands, which I am convinced from documents in my possession, were at the time they began to be cultivated, much worse than any lands we have in England.

Are not those lands of a sandy quality?—Yes.

Is not land of a sandy quality cultivated at infinitely less expense than stronger land?—Certainly.

Can you state within what period those very poor lands in the United Netherlands, were brought into cultivation?—The operation is going on now from day to day, as the country increases in population; the commencement of it was by some of the numerous bodies of monks some centuries ago; but it is curious to trace, which I have done, from the year 1150, the process of bringing those poor lands into cultivation.

In which country, England or America, is it probable, that it would best answer to cultivate the poorest land?—In England I suppose; there I must beg to make a distinction; more than one-half of America is cultivated by slaves, that is an expensive mode of cultivation; the other part, which does not yield more corn, if so much as suffices for its own consumption, is cultivated by a free peasantry, they raise other productions, though not corn, cheaper than the slaves; it is a singular circumstance, that almost all the corn which comes to this country from America, is the produce of countries cultivated by slaves.

You stated in your former evidence, that none of the countries from which England derives supplies of corn, were able to export much more than three days of their own consumption, upon what evidence do you found that opinion?—When I had the honour to be before the Committee last, I was not prepared for the exact course of examination that might be adopted, I stated then results of calculations that I had made on this subject; those calculations were founded upon principles and details, which it would require a great deal of time to go over again; but I think I can illustrate it by a shorter and equally satisfactory mode. In the first place, I have before me a view of the countries whose surplus grain is exported by the river Vistula, with a calculation of their whole annual production, and the proportion of it that is exported; the data are collected from various German statistical writers, principally Hassel, Demian, Krug and Croome.

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PRUSSIAN DOMINIONS.	Extent in British Statute Acres.	Inhabitants.
Province of East Prussia - - - - -	10,333,400	919,580
„ West Prussia - - - - -	6,844,800	581,971
„ Posen - - - - -	7,919,360	1,992,598
RUSSIAN DOMINIONS.		
Viceroyalty of Poland - - - - -	24,576,000	2,793,000
Some of the southwestern Provinces - -	Uncertain.	1,254,000
AUSTRIAN DOMINIONS.		
Province of Galicia - - - - -	20,509,440	3,716,692
„ Moravia and Silesia - - - - -	7,501,440	1,733,319
„ Bohemia - - - - -	11,984,320	3,212,613
		17,051,573

These accounts of population are according to the census of 1817. In the statistical documents of the above-mentioned countries, the mode of indicating the corn grown is different. In some, all the species are enumerated; in others, they are only divided into two classes, under the heads of summer corn and winter corn: the former comprising oats, barley, beans, peas and buck wheat; the latter, wheat, rye, and winter barley. The proportion of summer to winter corn grown, is as six to ten. As the summer corn yields in general more than the winter corn per acre, and the extent sown with it is greater, the produce of the former may be estimated at double that of the latter.

	Quarters.
If 17,000,000 human beings consume each ten bushels of winter corn, being principally rye, which is lighter than wheat, it will be -	21,222,000
For the breweries and the distilleries, as no wine is grown, and for feeding cattle, summer corn will be required - - - - -	42,444,000
As the produce of corn in these countries is on an average, an increase of four and a half for one, the consumption of seed must be - -	12,755,200
Divided by the days in the year (365) - - - - -	76,421,000
Gives for each day's demand (quarters) - - - - -	209,345

The average export from Dantzic, taken for ten years, is 346,500 quarters, somewhat more than the consumption of one day and a half. The maximum of those ten years was 15,150 lasts of 10½ quarter; the maximum, in a period of scarcity in England, was 57,660. When the greatest quantity was exported, I have reason to think it was partly from the accumulation of former years. In Russia, in one year, 1804, for which I have returns, the quantities sowed and gathered were as follow:

	Sowed.	Harvested.
Winter corn - - - - -	20,586,957	87,458,975
Summer corn - - - - -	28,232,709	98,465,065

In the Prussian provinces, the proportion of summer corn is nearly the same, but somewhat greater than in Russia. In the Austrian dominions, the summer corn bears a still greater proportion, and the increase is greater. Though the rivers of Bohemia run to the Elbe, yet when corn is drawn from Galicia and from Prussian and Austrian Silesia by the high prices of Dantzic, it is replaced from Bohemia, and even from the northern parts of Hungary. The canals of Prussia connect all the eastern parts of that kingdom with the river Vistula, even those parts which are nearer to the banks of the Oder. The corn is drawn to Dantzic on the Vistula in preference to Stettin upon the Oder, or Konigsberg on the Pregel, because, at the former port, the means of preserving it are far preferable, and the merchants have larger capitals with which either to purchase it or to make advances upon it.

Respecting France, in the year 1787, before the revolution began, the whole exports of the soil of France to all Europe, were as follow: by sea, 48,916,000 livres; by land, 37,404,000 livres; this includes, besides corn, live animals, preserved meat, salt, wine, vinegar, brandy, drugs, dried fruits, seeds, flax, wool, honey, almonds, olives, and some smaller articles. If those articles had been neglected to be cultivated, and the whole capital employed in them, had been directed to raising corn, it

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cannot be supposed that the grain would have been equal in value to those products which were found more profitable, or they would not have been cultivated; the whole exported production of the soil of France in that year, amounting to £ 3,658,600. sterling, when divided into the number of inhabitants, 27,000,000, would be 2s. 8d. per head. I estimate that the corn exported in that year, did not amount to more than one-fifth of the whole production of the soil, or 6½d. for each individual, or about one day's consumption. According to Chaptal, France produces annually 113,847,674 hectolitres of corn, each hectolitre being two bushels, two pecks, two gallons and one quart, which would give 37,756,056 quarters, valued by him at 53 francs and a half, or 46/10 per quarter, wheat being estimated at 18 francs the hectolitre. I have some hesitation in giving much confidence to the writings of Chaptal, though a minister of the interior, and believe that the quantity of corn produced in France, is much greater than he has stated it; I draw my inference from other statistical writers, Peuchet, Tardieu and Poirson, as well as from the contradictions in his own statements; he says the whole quantity of land in France under the plough, is 22,818,000 hectares; thus, according to him, the whole quantity of land in France under the plough, is 58,000,000 of acres, and it being common to adopt in that country, a rotation of a fallow and two corn crops, as far as that prevails, two-thirds of the land would be growing corn, which, at 14 bushels to the acre, would be 56,000,000 quarters, whereas Chaptal states it at only 37,000,000.

I have a statement of exports of provisions from the United States of America for seventeen years, drawn from the tables of Mr. Pitkin, a member of the congress.

[The Witness delivered in the same, which was read as follows:]

EXPORTS OF PROVISIONS from UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.	1800.	1801.	1802.	1803.	1804.	1805.
Quarters of Wheat - - - -	3,356	29,441	33,122	72,590	13,183	2,008
Barrels of Flour, 175 lbs. each	631,959	1,076,975	995,575	132,627	759,801	737,291
Tierces of Rice, about 600 lbs.	110,099	93,147	78,218	80,674	75,523	49,502
(continued) - -	1806.	1807.	1808.	1809.	1810.	1811.
Quarters of Wheat - - - -	10,826	95,828	1,368	32,149	33,263	26,930
Barrels of Flour, 175 lbs. each	729,436	11,186,321	248,232	738,234	697,716	1,358,092
Tierces of Rice, about 600 lbs.	99,523	92,268	8,200	98,726	109,636	112,187
(continued) - -	1812.	1813.	1814.	1815.	1816.	TOTAL.
Quarters of Wheat - - - -	6,719	36,104	- - -	2,022	7,785	406,694
Barrels of Flour, 175 lbs. each	134,407	1,228,114	158,450	780,828	620,246	12,214,304
Tierces of Rice, about 600 lbs.	69,959	119,572	5,073	130,083	17,628	1,350,028

On the average of the seventeen years the quantities have been

Wheat - -	23,276 quarters, or sufficient for that number of individuals for one year - -	Individuals. 23,276
Flour - -	718,488 barrels, reckoning five barrels of flour equivalent to two quarters of wheat, it will be sufficient for	287,395
Rice - - -	79,412 tierces, each being sustenance for one individual - - - - -	79,412
Bread corn equal to one year's food for - - -		390,083

The inhabitants of the United States may be estimated at 8,000,000; and consequently appear to have exported about one-twentieth part of as much bread corn as they consumed. If the corn used for breweries, distilleries, for cattle, and other purposes, is, as in other countries, as five to two of the bread corn, and if one tenth be allowed for seed, it may be presumed that the whole quantity of corn needed for the regular average consumption of the United States is, for bread - - - - - 8,000,000 quarters

For breweries, distilleries, cattle, and other purposes - 20,000,000

For seed - - - - - 2,800,000

30,800,000

The Exports will then be somewhat more than three days consumption, or about two days consumption for Great Britain.

If

If I should be mistaken in estimating the quantities consumed, the mistake cannot be considerable; but if I should be mistaken even to the extent of doubling the quantities, and the exportable powers of the countries I have adverted to should amount to six days consumption, it will not very materially affect the views which I entertain of the subject.

There is but little danger of one country being permanently overstocked from any other single country, but in periods of universal excess, like the present, when, from all countries it flows into that which is the richest of them, such country may be glutted; thus if all Europe, containing 180 million of inhabitants could spare three days consumption, for a country like Great Britain, consisting of only twelve millions, it would amount to six or seven weeks consumption for that country, and might thereby inundate and glut its markets.

As the surplus of every country is so small, there arises a greater necessity for protecting the domestic agriculture, since when a year of scarcity occurs, a supply can only be drawn from other countries by the temptation of excessive high prices. As such scarcity can seldom be ascertained till a large portion of the domestic crop is consumed, the poor must be severe sufferers towards the latter part of the season.

This near approach of supply to demand will account for the sufferings in France about the commencement of the revolution, for those of England at several periods during the war, and for those of all the countries on the Continent in the year 1817.

From the great proportion of the produce of every country which is consumed at home, some idea may be formed of the greater portion of wealth, that is created by internal production and consumption, than by any external commerce.

The countries in which the greater proportion of inhabitants are employed in agriculture do not raise the greatest surplus, this view will account for the great rise which takes place in every part of Europe whenever a scarcity occurs in England.

If this country allows a free importation of grain, and if, in consequence, a part of the labour and capital employed in the manufactures, such as they are of the countries you have mentioned, were employed on the land, and the manufactures imported, would not the quantity of corn for exportation be very greatly increased?—Certainly.

Would the labour and capital of any of those countries be withdrawn from manufactures to be employed on the land, unless the proprietor could, by so doing, obtain an increase of the aggregate quantity of corn and manufactures for their own consumption?—Not unless he thought so.

Would he not generally be correct in his calculation upon such a subject?—That is very doubtful; because it depends on other contingencies than mere demand and supply, such as the events of war, the restrictions of his own government, and a thousand local circumstances which I cannot describe.

Do you know of any fairer principle of legislation than to allow him the free exercise of his judgment in determining the employment of his capital?—There can be no fairer principle than that every man should exercise his judgment in the way he thinks best, provided he does not thereby injure his neighbour.

At the period of the revolution in France was there a free trade in corn, or were there restrictions on the importation of corn from foreign countries?—There were sometimes restrictions and sometimes premiums, but France suffered most from the restrictions upon the internal communication between the different provinces. In some parts of France they were not allowed to send their corn to other parts of the kingdom; the effect of the laws there was the same as is produced by the want of means of conveyance in Spain; where when wheat has been such a drug in Castile as to threaten the farmers with ruin, the inhabitants of Andalusia have been induced to draw their supply from the other side of the Atlantic. I was asked the last time I was here, whether I had noted the prices of corn in any of the different markets which I had visited in France or Germany in the latter end of 1819. I find, by minutes I made on the spot, that at St. Avold's market, wheat was eight francs, or seven shillings, for 130 lbs. about 3s. 4d. per bushel, and oats five francs for 130 lbs. or 1s. 6½d. per bushel. At Saarbrücke, wheat was 8s. 6d. for 140 lbs. weighing, as nearly as I could guess, about 56 lbs. the bushel; rye 7s. for 136 lbs.; oats 3s. 6d. for 120 lbs.; pease 7s. for 150 lbs.; and potatoes 16^{no} for 200 lbs.

If the legislature were to abrogate the present corn laws, and to render the trade in corn free, what effect would it produce on the agricultural interests of this country?—It is impossible to calculate even the immediate effect without other data, such as the proportionate amount of the next harvest.

Supposing the next harvest were to produce an average crop, what would the effect, in

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in your opinion, be?—I cannot calculate the effect of that till I know nearly what the surplus of the present year will be at the commencement of the next harvest.

Supposing it were enacted, that five years from this time the present restrictions on trade in corn should cease what do you think would be the effect upon this country afterwards?—It would drive out of cultivation the poorer lands, which require the greatest portion of labour, and as our present distress arises principally from want of employment, we should thereby destroy the cultivation of those lands which give employment to the greater number.

Would not the effect of such a measure be to drive a portion of the population now employed in agriculture into other branches of industry?—Undoubtedly, if they could find employment in them.

Are you aware of any branch of industry in the country that is now understocked with labour?—I know of none.

Would not then the effect of such an interference, at present, on the part of the legislature, be to take away the industry of one class of people, from one mode of employment and direct it to another?—It might direct it to the other; but unless there was an absorbing power in that other it could not be employed.

With your knowledge of agriculture, is it possible to apply the callous hands of the agricultural labourer to any purpose of manufacture?—To very few purposes; and to fewer still, of those minuter operations which the great extent to which the division of labour is carried in this country renders necessary.

Do you not conceive that in proportion as the soil is poor and requires a greater degree of work to give it a state of fertility, the population upon that soil will increase in proportion to the labour that is employed upon it?—Certainly.

Then it will follow, that upon the poorer soils, there will be greater population for whom employment is to be found, in the event of such a change as that contemplated by the last question?—Certainly.

Have you any idea that there is an increasing demand for our manufactures now, generally throughout the continent of Europe?—I should think not.

Is not rye the general subsistence of the nations on the continent?—Generally.

Do you call this summer or winter grain?—The inhabitants call it winter grain.

Is not the general consumption of all great establishments, in some degree regulated by their general circumstances, as to whether they are thriving, stationary or declining?—Certainly; the consumption depends upon the flourishing condition of the inhabitants.

How then upon such an extended surface as that of Russia, can you estimate the probable consumption of Russia?—I have stated that my views of the consumption were estimates, but my accounts of the produce are statements; the Russian, like many others of the continental governments, collect and communicate statistical information, such as the quantity of land sown with wheat, rye, barley, and in many instances the produce; and consumption must be a matter of estimate and inference in every country, except in the cities upon the Continent, where the establishment of the octroi gives a very accurate account of the consumption, and a guide to assist calculation.

Is not the state of Russia generally, a state of extreme poverty as to its lower classes?—Certainly; I estimated the average maintenance of all classes of Russians per head at 5*l.* or about 3½ *R.* per day for each individual, and the exportable productions of the country at about a shilling, or one hundredth part of the amount which every individual in the country consumes.

Is there not in the Netherlands a considerable export of butter and cheese?—From the kingdom of the Netherlands, very considerable.

What is the proportion, speaking of the Netherlands generally, as to arable and pasture?—I cannot state that now, I could have stated it with ease; but I have not the documents before me here, or in London.

Do you not believe that there would be a probability of the arable being increased by the knowledge of a constant trade with England in grain?—It would be somewhat increased; but not to produce the effect which is generally imagined.

How can you calculate the extent to which it would be increased?—It is impossible to calculate it extempore; it is matter of opinion.

Are the granaries of Poland all on the coast?—The large granaries are exclusively or nearly so at Dantzic, some few at Königsberg, and some at Riga.

Are there any granaries in the interior?—I believe none, except that during the great depression of agriculture, the King of Prussia, to relieve his poor subjects, has purchased large quantities of rye, and formed large granaries for exportation.

If

If this was not the case, and if they had not this constant power of putting their stock to sea immediately, whenever there was opportunity, might not they suffer a material inconvenience in their trade, from the circumstances of weather as affecting internal navigation; and do they not, in fact, very often experience considerable inconvenience by the circumstance of unfair winds blowing for a day or two?—Certainly.

Apply this to England, and does not this circumstance alone give a material advantage to the holder of foreign corn, by the power of warehousing?—Certainly.

Has the surplus produce of the districts you have been describing, been in a state of progressive increase during the course of the last war?—Very considerably.

If the trade in corn were open, to how many days consumption of the population of Great Britain, do you think the average importation would amount?—That must depend entirely upon the state of the markets here, nothing but high prices could draw corn from the more remote countries that ship it by the Vistula. For instance, the corn of Galicia would not come to Dantzic when the prices of England were moderate, the prices in England always regulating those of Dantzic; but if the prices were enormously high, as they have been in England, wheat would be sent, even by land carriage, from Hungary, and even from the centre of Bohemia, and indeed from every part it would be crowded. The circle then, which would be described by the demand, would be marked by the price here.

Under the supposition that the ports were always open here, would not there be a certain supply always to this country?—That would depend entirely upon the prices of this country.

Is not the English price always under the price of Dantzic?—It regulates the price of Dantzic; it is higher because there is freight and insurance, and sometimes profit added.

Would the importation that England would receive, have a tendency to increase the quantity?—Yes; I should think it would in a small degree.

Would not such an increase have a material effect in depressing the agriculture of this country?—Certainly, as far as it extended.

Do you think a depression of the agricultural prices would tend to lower the wages of the labourers, and their ability to purchase the necessaries and luxuries they now enjoy?—It would do so unless they were relieved by the poor's rates.

Would they not be relieved, if they were employed in other occupations?—That would depend upon whether they were occupations in which they were skilful.

Is there any limit to the demand for manufactures at home, but the want of means of procuring them?—No.

If we could procure our corn for three-fourths of the present cost, should we not have an increased demand for our manufactures, and also increased means of purchasing them?—Certainly not; we should have diminished means of purchasing them, because the consumption of that part of the community which depends on agriculture, is the largest, and if their means of purchasing are limited or diminished by a diminution in the prices of their commodities, their consumption of manufactures must be lessened.

Does it not then follow, that if we had our corn for nothing, we should have diminished means of purchasing commodities?—Some parts of the community would.

Would the whole country together, be more or less wealthy?—I really cannot say; I have never contemplated the possibility of corn being produced like the air; I am persuaded the whole country would be more miserable; it would be the ruin of whole classes of the community, by the loss of capital to the landholders, and of industry to the labourers.

You have no doubt the country would be less wealthy, if it had its corn at three-fourths of the present cost?—I think, if the corn was sold at less than three-fourths of the present cost, the country would not be enriched; one part of the community would be enriched and another impoverished; it is a question of proportion.

If England could obtain the whole corn it at present consumes, with three-fourths of the capital and labour now expended, would she be poorer or richer in consequence?—The country might possibly be ultimately richer, if we could conceive a continuation of the peace for fifty or a hundred years, the annihilation of ambition in all other countries, the abstinence from all other pursuits amongst men in this country, but that of getting money, and the abolition of all ideas of honour, and literature and distinction: if we resolved every thing into that simple operation of getting money, perhaps we might get richer; but it is more probable, that by the great destruction of the present inducements to mental and bodily exertions, some ages, if not centuries, might elapse, before wealth would be so increased; the effect on industry, and consequently

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sequently on wealth, which may be produced by the destruction of any class of society, cannot be calculated by abstract computation.

If by improvements in agriculture at home, we were enabled with three-fourths of the present capital to obtain all our corn, would it or would it not be a desirable thing?—It might or might not be a desirable thing, but it is an impossible thing; there are physical reasons why it is impossible.

The question is, would it be desirable?—I cannot answer; in some views it might; in others it might not.

Is not every improvement in manufacture, considered an advantage to us?—Yes.

Why should not the same principle be extended to the cultivation of the soil?—It is.

Then you allow, that if we could produce our corn at three-fourths of our capital and labour, it would be an advantage to us?—Yes, at some possible period, certainly; as far as mere money or wealth goes.

Could not the hard and callous hands of the labourers, be employed advantageously in the construction of buildings, the making of bridges, and the digging of canals, if they could be spared from their employment on the land?—Yes, if there was employment for them; but if the land be uncultivated, the forming canals, and even roads and bridges, would be unproductive employments.

On whom does the expense of building bridges, principally fall?—On the land.

Upon the whole, do you think it would be better for a country to depend for the necessaries of life, upon the produce of other countries, than upon its own?—Certainly not.

You have stated, that the best cultivated lands in the north of Europe, are those which are in the immediate occupation of the opulent nobles, their demesne lands?—Yes.

And that you have had an opportunity of inquiring into the state of this part of the agriculture of the Continent, from one nobleman in particular, a very large agriculturist in Prussia; have you any objection to state the name of that nobleman?—No; Baron Knobelsdorf.

Were the lands which he cultivated, of a good and tolerably fertile quality?—Originally, sandy lands; but greatly improved by cultivation; there were on it, a great number of Merino sheep.

Had you an opportunity of ascertaining from this nobleman, whether he kept accounts of the expenses and outgoings of the cultivation of his estate?—Yes, very accurately.

Can you state from any calculation he made to you, at what expense he was enabled to grow his wheat; making no allowance for rent?—No, I think I cannot from him.

Can you from any other person under similar circumstances?—Yes, I can; I spent some days with a Polish nobleman, whose extensive estates are at present one part in the dominions of Russia, and the other part in the dominion of Prussia; he was a very accurate man; I met him at the seat of a Mr. Von Thaer, who is the Arthur Young of Germany, and perhaps the best agricultural writer and ablest practical farmer in Europe; and I conversed with them both a good deal about the price at which they could grow wheat; there is much difficulty in making a calculation where the wheat and the rye and other grains grow in succession; and each of them receives a certain but undefineable benefit, from the portion of manure that is applied to the rotation. A difficulty with them arose, in estimating what the value was of what we in England call the half-dressings. After putting the subject in a variety of views with them, they came to the conclusion that wheat would cost near 36 s. a quarter.

Do you mean 36 s. a quarter exclusive of rent, or any value put upon the land?—Exclusive of rent and no value put upon the land; but comprising the expense of conveyance to Dantzic and the transit duties.

In what part of Poland was this?—The estate to which I refer, was one part in the Polish and the other part in the Prussian territories, to the eastward of the Oder on the river Wartha, that runs through Posen.

Were there any particular burthens upon this estate or to which it was liable, that increased the charge of cultivation beyond the average of other estates in the country?—No; I recollect in the course of our conversation, the Count making some difference in the calculation between the wheat which grew on the Polish and on the Prussian part of the estate; partly arising from taxes, and partly because, in the Prussian dominions, slavery has been abolished; whereas in the Russian territory, it is, though mitigated, still continued.

In

In that part where slavery continued, was the expense greater?—The calculation of the expense was higher.

You have stated that rents were rapidly declining in France, and that you apprehended when the short leases, which are generally granted in that country, should expire, there would be a very considerable reduction in those rents; are you aware, that in France the land-tax is paid upon what is called a cadastre, being an actual valuation of the whole rental of that kingdom?—The cadastre has only been extended yet to little more than one quarter of France; by the report I have at home up to 1818, out of 38,990 communes, only 9,744 were then cadastre; of which 2,726 were not finished with the labour of 30 years; but it is going on.

That cadastre being a valuation of the rental in order to assess the land tax?—Yes.

Can you state, upon the actual rent, what is the land tax?—I think from twenty-four to thirty-five per cent on the actual rent.

If the rents in France are so rapidly falling, must not this cadastre either become useless as a measure of collecting the land tax, or if it should be collected according to the scale fixed by the cadastre, will it not be the means of preventing the cultivation of those lands that will be most affected by this fall in price?—Yes, I think so.

Does the cadastre extend to houses as well as land?—Yes, certainly.

In what proportion do the houses pay in comparison to the land?—I cannot state; they pay also on the doors and windows.

Do you suppose they pay an equal proportion to the land?—I believe they do; but I cannot answer that question decidedly without reference to documents.

Have the rents of land in France risen much during the last thirty years?—It is difficult to say; I should think they have; but thirty years ago, before the revolution, the tenures were so very different, they can scarcely be reduced to a money rent.

Have you observed any great difference in the productions of France under the protection of that law by which descendible properties are divided among children?—Yes; the effect of it is, that, except in Paris, you see no new houses, no old houses repaired, barns and stables in ruins, nothing substantial is done; I apprehend a kind of garden culture has succeeded in France, in many places, to the use of the plough, and that the cultivation of potatoes has been very generally introduced, which creates a population nearer resembling that of Ireland than that of England.

You have stated, that the corn grown upon the banks of the Oder and the Vistula is chiefly warehoused in Dantzic and Konigsberg: if for the space of two or three years there were no foreign demand, what effect would that produce upon the price of corn warehoused at Dantzic and Konigsberg?—It must be sold at any price that was offered for it.

Are you acquainted with the present state of the markets of those places in this respect?—No, not at all.

Admitting that there were no foreign demand, and that the warehouses of Dantzic and Konigsberg were full of grain, what effect would that circumstance produce upon the internal markets upon the banks of those rivers?—I think a very trifling effect, except that of making them cultivate rye instead of wheat, because, as I have shown, the whole surplus is so small compared with the extent of the population of those countries, that if that surplus was thrown back upon themselves, it would induce them not to cultivate so much wheat, as that kind of grain is little used for food, but chiefly for foreign trade.

Would not the want of demand for that surplus, materially diminish the price of the whole production?—No doubt of it.

Are you acquainted with the capacity of the Russian empire to produce grain?—No, I am not; I have not calculated the capacity of that immense country, nor can it be done without such data as the quantity of capital, the number of working cattle, and the number of cattle to make manure, which I do not possess.

Are you aware of the mode in which the crops of that country are preserved from year to year?—I apprehend the greater part of it is threshed out soon after the harvest, and the surplus, that which is not wanted for their own demand, sold in the markets in small parcels, collected afterwards in masses by the speculators, who carry it to Dantzic, Konigsberg, Elbing, Stettin and other ports.

If there existed a constant foreign demand for the agricultural produce of Russia, could not that immense country greatly increase its exports of grain?—I have no doubt that it could.

Do you not believe, that on the average of seasons, the price of corn at home, has been materially lowered by the increase both of capital and of cultivation at home?—Certainly.

William Jacob,
Esq.

(11 May.)

If a much greater demand took place from this or any other part of Europe for corn from the Baltic, would not the price of corn there rise?—Very much.

Are you of opinion, that if the price of corn did rise materially in Poland, there is a very great extent of country there which might be made to produce very good corn, if they had a more encouraging price for it?—Yes; and if they had capital.

Would they not be tempted to bring that which is now under cultivation for rye, under cultivation for wheat?—Probably they might.

Mr. David Langton; Called in; and Examined.

Mr.
David Langton.

(11 May.)

YOU are an accomptant-general of excise?—I am.

How do you reconcile those two accounts, the printed one with the manuscript; the manuscript account is intituled, "The number of barrels of beer upon which duty has been paid for the last ten years, in the following collections of excise;" how do you reconcile that with the account delivered to the house of "the Birmingham excise duties?"—With respect to the difference in the two accounts of the quantities of strong and table beer charged with excise duties, in the town of Birmingham, I beg to observe, that the years 1818, 1819, and 1820, in the printed account, do not commence at the same period with the corresponding years in the ten years account; the first year of the former commences 5th of January 1818, and ends on 5th of January 1819; and therefore, these years should be compared with the years ended 5th January 1819, 1820, and 1821, in the other account; for instance—

Printed Account.

	Strong beer.
1818 - - -	85,011
1819 - - -	79,188
1820 - - -	74,897

Ten years account.

	Strong beer.
1819 - - -	78,162
1820 - - -	73,837
1821 - - -	70,764

There is, however, a difference in the two accounts, of some thousands of barrels; which was occasioned by the persons who made out the first account, taking into it more establishments and traders in the vicinity of Birmingham, than were considered, on making out the second account, strictly to belong to the town of Birmingham; this is the cause of the disagreement in the two accounts; they having been derived from different sources, and made out by different persons, the one embracing a larger number of traders in the vicinity of Birmingham, than the other; the accounts appear to be correct.

What is the extent of that division which was not included in the first account?—I am not acquainted with the local extent of the division; there is a common brewer and seventeen victuallers, I understand.

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX.

Appendix, N° 1.

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Prices of Wheat per quarter in the 12 Maritime Districts, in each Week, from the 25th March 1815 to the 25th March 1819.

Week ended	25 March 1815	s.	d.	Week ended	1 June 1816	s.	d.
—	—	64	2	—	—	77	10
—	1 April	65	9	—	8	76	4
—	8	68	9	—	15	76	1
—	15	70	3	—	22	75	9
—	22	70	4	—	29	75	7
—	29	69	8	—	6 July	75	2
—	6 May	69	7	—	13	75	7
—	13	69	10	—	20	74	9
—	20	70	—	—	27	75	11
—	27	69	3	—	3 August	77	4
—	3 June	69	7	—	10	80	2
—	10	68	11	—	17	83	1
—	17	67	10	—	24	85	11
—	24	67	8	—	31	86	6
—	1 July	67	3	—	7 Sept ^r	85	4
—	8	67	3	—	14	85	3
—	15	66	10	—	21	88	4
—	22	67	2	—	28	85	10
—	29	67	5	—	5 October	85	10
—	5 August	69	6	—	12	87	3
—	12	69	6	—	19	93	5
—	19	68	—	—	26	96	1
—	26	67	2	—	2 Nov ^r	95	10
—	2 Sept ^r	66	5	—	9	98	2
—	9	65	3	—	16	97	6
—	16	63	11	—	23	95	5
—	23	62	7	—	30	97	7
—	30	60	5	—	7 Dec ^r	101	8
—	7 October	59	—	—	14	103	11
—	14	58	4	—	21	102	5
—	21	57	4	—	28	101	3
—	28	56	5	—	4 January 1817	103	4
—	4 Nov ^r	55	7	—	11	102	7
—	11	56	4	—	18	101	5
—	18	56	5	—	25	102	2
—	25	57	4	—	1 February	100	11
—	2 Dec ^r	57	6	—	8	99	—
—	9	56	9	—	15	99	4
—	16	56	4	—	22	97	11
—	23	55	4	—	1 March	97	6
—	30	54	8	—	8	99	9
—	6 January 1816	54	2	—	15	100	8
—	13	53	1	—	22	101	9
—	20	53	3	—	29	103	—
—	27	53	1	—	5 April	102	1
—	3 Feb ^y	54	3	—	12	103	4
—	10	54	11	—	19	102	—
—	17	56	7	—	26	102	2
—	24	57	1	—	3 May	102	8
—	2 March	57	—	—	10	104	—
—	9	56	2	—	17	103	1
—	16	55	9	—	24	102	11
—	23	56	3	—	31	104	1
—	30	57	3	—	7 June	107	—
—	6 April	58	8	—	14	108	6
—	13	60	7	—	21	112	3
—	20	62	5	—	28	112	7
—	27	65	5	—	5 July	108	5
—	4 May	70	1	—	12	103	2
—	11	72	7	—	19	100	—
—	18	76	10	—	26	94	—
—	25	80	5	—	2 August	89	3

Appendix, N^o 1.—The Average Prices of Wheat, &c.—continued.

Week ended			S.	d.	Week ended			S.	d.
9 August 1817	-	-	86	10	6 June 1818	-	-	83	7
16	-	-	85	-	13	-	-	82	4
23	-	-	85	-	20	-	-	83	9
30	-	-	82	9	27	-	-	83	3
6 Sept ^r	-	-	81	6	4 July	-	-	83	4
13	-	-	81	7	11	-	-	84	2
20	-	-	77	1	18	-	-	85	6
27	-	-	74	-	25	-	-	86	7
4 October	-	-	74	9	1 August	-	-	84	7
11	-	-	78	4	8	-	-	81	9
18	-	-	79	9	15	-	-	79	-
25	-	-	78	7	22	-	-	78	1
1 Nov ^r	-	-	78	8	29	-	-	78	8
8	-	-	80	4	5 Sept ^r	-	-	80	3
15	-	-	82	-	12	-	-	81	-
22	-	-	83	1	19	-	-	80	11
29	-	-	84	7	26	-	-	80	8
6 Dec ^r	-	-	85	7	3 October	-	-	80	4
13	-	-	85	4	10	-	-	80	5
20	-	-	86	1	17	-	-	80	6
27	-	-	87	9	24	-	-	79	10
					31	-	-	79	10
3 January 1818	-	-	87	6	7 Nov ^r	-	-	80	3
10	-	-	87	6	14	-	-	80	6
17	-	-	87	-	21	-	-	81	-
24	-	-	85	10	28	-	-	80	10
31	-	-	85	3	5 Dec ^r	-	-	80	6
7 February	-	-	84	10	12	-	-	79	11
14	-	-	86	-	19	-	-	79	4
21	-	-	86	4	26	-	-	78	7
28	-	-	85	8					
7 March	-	-	85	3	2 January 1819	-	-	77	2
14	-	-	84	6	9	-	-	77	5
21	-	-	84	11	16	-	-	77	8
28	-	-	85	7	23	-	-	77	6
4 April	-	-	87	10	30	-	-	77	4
11	-	-	88	10	6 February	-	-	77	6
18	-	-	90	5	13	-	-	78	6
25	-	-	91	3	20	-	-	78	11
2 May	-	-	98	8	27	-	-	78	8
9	-	-	89	-	6 March	-	-	77	8
16	-	-	87	11	13	-	-	77	8
23	-	-	87	5	20	-	-	77	9
30	-	-	85	2					

21 May 1821.

W^m Dowding,
Receiver of Corn Returns.Appendix, N^o 2.

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Prices of British Grain per Quarter, and of Oatmeal per Boll of 140lbs. avoirdupois, in England and Wales, from 1813 to 1820, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.	Oatmeal.
	S. d.	S. d.	S. d.	S. d.	S. d.	S. d.	S. d.
1813	108 9	70 7	58 4	39 5	76 5	78 6	43 5
1814	73 11	44 6	37 4	26 6	46 7	50 -	33 -
1815	64 4	37 10	30 3	23 10	36 1	38 10	30 -
1816	75 10	43 2	33 5	23 6	38 4	38 4	28 4
1817	94 9	56 6	48 3	32 1	52 -	51 5	39 3
1818	84 1	54 10	53 6	32 11	63 1	59 11	36 -
1819	73 -	49 -	46 8	29 4	55 5	56 -	31 6
1820	65 7	40 10	33 10	24 4	43 6	44 11	25 6

23 March 1821.

W^m Dowding,
Receiver of Corn Returns.

Appendix, N° 3.

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Prices of Corn per barrel, and of Meal per cwt. of 112 lbs. in the Dublin market, from 1813 to 1820, both inclusive.

		AVERAGE PRICES IN THE YEARS							
		1813:	1814:	1815:	1816:	1817:	1818:	1819:	1820:
CORN:									
Barley - - -		25/7½	18/9½	13/1½	14/9	16/2½	24/0½	23/7	14/11
Beans - - -		40/.	30/.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malt - - -		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meslin - - -		- -	- -	- -	- -	12/6	- -	36/7	—
Oats - - -		20/11½	13/10½	12/9½	13/0½	13/7½	18/4½	15/11½	12/5½
Peas - - -		30/1½	18/11½	18/0½	18/3½	—	—	—	—
Rye - - -		25/.	20/11	- -	- -	13/.	—	—	—
Wheat - - -		53/3½	35/1	33/7½	42/8½	43/10½	45/9	39/2½	29/6½
MEAL:									
Flour - - -		29/0¾	21/10½	19/2¾	24/4	35/5¼	25/11¾	23/2¾	20/0¾
Groat - - -		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oat - - -		13/0¾	16/4¾	12/9¾	14/4	15/6¾	17/11¾	17/1½	14/2¾
Wheat - - -		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

John Moore,
Registrar of Corn Returns.

Appendix, N° 4.

AN ACCOUNT of the Windsor Prices of Wheat and Malt at Eton College, in continuation of the Return made in 1814.

					WHEAT, per Bushel.		MALT, per Bushel.	
					s.	d.	s.	d.
Michaelmas - - -	1814	-	-	-	10	6	6	8
Ladyday - - -	1815	-	-	-	10	—	6	2
Michaelmas - - -	1815	-	-	-	9	—	6	2
Ladyday - - -	1816	-	-	-	9	—	4	8
Michaelmas - - -	1816	-	-	-	11	6	* 6	4
Ladyday - - -	1817	-	-	-	16	6	9	10
Michaelmas - - -	1817	-	-	-	12	6	9	10
Ladyday - - -	1818	-	-	-	13	—	9	4
Michaelmas - - -	1818	-	-	-	11	6	10	—
Ladyday - - -	1819	-	-	-	10	—	10	2
Michaelmas - - -	1819	-	-	-	9	6	9	—
Ladyday - - -	1820	-	-	-	10	—	7	—
Michaelmas - - -	1820	-	-	-	9	—	7	—

* Duty on Malt reduced 2s. 2d. per bushel.

March 26, 1821.

Edw^d Brown,
Registrar to Eton College.

Appendix, N° 5.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Quantity of Corn, Grain, Meal and Flour, imported into and exported from England, from 1697 (being the first year upon record at the Custom House) to 1774, both inclusive.

PERIODS.	WHEAT and FLOUR.		BARLEY and MALT.		OATS and OATMEAL.		RYE.		PEASE and BEANS.	
	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.
	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
Five Years, ending with 1701 - - -	336,171	7,085	299,695	361	1,446	2,055	75,492	3,972	-	-
Six Years, ending with 1707 - - -	645,831	129	842,568	-	735	594	247,418	-	-	-
Four Years, ending with 1711 - - -	353,135	2,038	607,860	1,335	18,720	324	221,451	-	-	-
D° - - - D° - - -	682,410	16	967,128	1	57,931	21	108,444	-	72	-
D° - - - D° - - -	306,427	20	1,427,917	-	48,549	383	160,593	-	327	-
Five Years, ending with 1724 - - -	751,250	148	1,733,122	707	42,906	61,744	199,095	-	50	-
D° - - - D° - - -	408,759	114,901	1,159,513	29,047	36,978	256,351	52,407	174,252	39	23
D° - - - D° - - -	1,146,964	94	1,210,182	3,896	24,918	123,104	89,051	-	202	3
D° - - - D° - - -	1,613,345	85	1,235,009	7	68,496	6,767	77,352	-	-	29
D° - - - D° - - -	1,005,759	13,015	1,111,361	15,628	38,445	122,496	243,429	12,138	60	3,888
D° - - - D° - - -	1,903,183	394	2,217,971	40	105,112	19	437,204	-	-	53
D° - - - D° - - -	3,101,092	484	2,041,480	56	43,127	80,541	295,936	-	120	288
D° - - - D° - - -	588,638	162,082	935,279	15,905	22,119	102,086	115,888	9,922	32	2,935
D° - - - D° - - -	1,957,350	132	1,590,677	9,280	48,772	387,133	180,482	-	-	151
D° - - - D° - - -	394,461	967,118	412,154	103,413	60,016	892,588	32,564	123,852	71,256	49,400
D° - - - D° - - -	116,062	374,024	224,024	238,749	122,894	1,172,544	2,902	57,660	82,411	86,346
TOTAL - - -	15,310,837	1,641,765	18,015,940	418,425	741,164	3,208,750	2,539,708	381,796	154,569	143,116

Abstract of the Quantities of all Sorts Exported in the 78 Years - - - 36,762,218 Quarters.
D° - - - Imported in - D° - - - 5,793,852 Quarters.

18th June 1821.

Andrew Sturt,
Ass^t Insp^r Gen^l.

Appendix, N° 6.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Quantity of Grain imported into and exported from Great Britain, in each Year since the 5th of January 1773; specifying the different sorts of Grain, and distinguishing Ireland from other Countries.

Y E A R S Ending the 5th of January,				BARLEY and BARLEY MEAL,					
				Imported from			Exported to		
				Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
				Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	-	-	-	7,475	56,301	63,776	190	1,577	1,767
1775	-	-	-	20,222	151,527	171,749	240	993	1,233
1776	-	-	-	20,344	113,495	133,839	548	8,169	8,717
1777	-	-	-	1,929	6,504	8,433	1,063	11,053	12,116
1778	-	-	-	3,849	4,132	7,981	608	9,160	9,768
1779	-	-	-	14,150	28,565	42,715	697	2,025	2,722
1780	-	-	-	3,822	3,266	7,088	1,899	6,843	8,742
1781	-	-	-	-	352	352	9,109	45,647	54,756
1782	-	-	-	40	16	56	7,630	28,596	36,226
1783	-	-	-	11,360	1,821	13,181	5,606	36,131	41,737
1784	-	-	-	4,683	140,879	145,562	3,109	6,023	9,132
1785	-	-	-	153	78,383	78,536	4,233	19,981	24,214
1786	-	-	-	23,437	43,956	67,393	9,820	67,281	77,101
1787	-	-	-	53,601	11,853	65,454	184	19,650	19,834
1788	-	-	-	39,540	2,097	41,637	1,028	26,131	27,159
1789	-	-	-	10,622	857	11,479	2,194	63,426	65,620
1790	-	-	-	9,323	1,805	11,128	897	221,546	222,443
1791	-	-	-	16,766	12,953	29,719	320	18,582	18,902
1792	-	-	-	13,021	48,113	61,134	505	2,363	2,868
1793	-	-	-	5,446	113,080	118,526	14,270	14,840	29,110
1794	-	-	-	4,285	142,884	147,169	818	711	1,529
1795	-	-	-	17,198	111,370	128,568	1,696	1,268	2,964
1796	-	-	-	-	18,070	18,070	794	995	1,789
1797	-	-	-	-	40,033	40,033	3,011	4,193	7,204
1798	-	-	-	12,268	51,930	64,198	180	5,073	5,253
1799	-	-	-	49,780	66,705	116,485	4	2,852	2,856
1800	-	-	-	151	19,387	19,538	21,678	3,223	24,901
1801	-	-	-	78	130,898	130,976	914	2,479	3,393
1802	-	-	-	-	113,966	113,966	450	1,164	1,614
1803	-	-	-	7,116	8,136	15,252	1,896	2,831	4,727
1804	-	-	-	12,879	1,148	14,027	18,864	13,892	32,756
1805	-	-	-	2,521	9,075	11,596	97,923	17,799	115,722
1806	-	-	-	15,656	27,645	43,301	751	5,804	6,555
1807	-	-	-	3,327	2,058	5,385	14,259	2,561	16,820
1808	-	-	-	23,048	3,043	26,091	1,143	5,577	6,720
1809	-	-	-	30,586	4,664	35,250	2,357	1,211	3,568
1810	-	-	-	16,619	13,350	29,969	4,036	1,714	5,750
1811	-	-	-	8,321	17,998	26,319	18,432	8,724	27,156
1812	-	-	-	2,713	40,127	42,840	27,663	46,488	74,151
1813	-	-	-	43,262	40,405	83,667	4,306	48,928	53,234
1814	-	-	-	63,560	19,708	83,268	10,377	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	-	-	-	17,344	28,687	46,031	15,569	38,549	54,118
1816	-	-	-	27,519	2,059	29,578	1,533	6,669	8,202
1817	-	-	-	63,629	14,865	78,494	922	32,769	33,691
1818	-	-	-	28,019	133,793	161,812	29,940	34,219	64,159
1819	-	-	-	27,220	695,623	722,843	16,546	2,199	18,745
1820	-	-	-	21,834	372,346	394,180	3,286	4,110	7,396
1821	-	-	-	88,343	28,671	117,014	4,489	5,478	9,967

Appendix, N° 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL and FLOUR, Imported into and Exported from - - - -

YEARS Ending the 5th of January,				BEANS and BEAN MEAL,					
				Imported from			Exported to		
				Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
				Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	-	-	-	1,587	48,271	49,858	3	10,919	10,922
1775	-	-	-	60	16,341	16,401	7	10,242	10,249
1776	-	-	-	1,102	31,603	32,705	-	14,450	14,450
1777	-	-	-	2,409	16,646	19,055	75	41,055	41,130
1778	-	-	-	419	34,708	35,127	446	30,182	30,628
1779	-	-	-	-	30,165	30,165	129	21,979	22,108
1780	-	-	-	1,339	13,252	14,591	479	26,536	27,015
1781	-	-	-	534	6,872	7,406	-	16,836	16,836
1782	-	-	-	844	2,401	3,245	200	15,818	16,018
1783	-	-	-	353	3,377	3,730	240	14,277	14,517
1784	-	-	-	-	29,964	29,964	510	9,753	10,263
1785	-	-	-	432	28,242	28,674	390	8,050	8,440
1786	-	-	-	740	8,615	9,355	-	6,572	6,572
1787	-	-	-	347	33,667	34,014	-	10,795	10,795
1788	-	-	-	1,571	39,181	40,752	-	11,398	11,398
1789	-	-	-	125	9,695	9,820	-	10,588	10,588
1790	-	-	-	11	151	162	-	19,909	19,909
1791	-	-	-	4,160	35,382	39,542	-	10,392	10,392
1792	-	-	-	901	11,842	12,743	-	8,267	8,267
1793	-	-	-	1,847	36,605	38,452	3	11,653	11,656
1794	-	-	-	3,312	26,408	29,720	-	9,771	9,771
1795	-	-	-	1,847	88,396	90,243	-	7,520	7,520
1796	-	-	-	1,984	13,823	15,807	-	3,235	3,235
1797	-	-	-	879	34,327	35,206	4	8,609	8,613
1798	-	-	-	587	16,807	17,394	-	8,486	8,486
1799	-	-	-	3,787	8,540	12,327	-	16,092	16,092
1800	-	-	-	1,563	3,237	4,800	-	9,508	9,508
1801	-	-	-	-	15,796	15,796	-	7,146	7,146
1802	-	-	-	-	16,246	16,246	-	5,476	5,476
1803	-	-	-	1,655	4,138	5,793	-	6,792	6,792
1804	-	-	-	1,653	85	1,738	2	4,883	4,885
1805	-	-	-	3,060	8,868	11,928	-	5,918	5,918
1806	-	-	-	2,009	8,727	10,736	-	5,490	5,490
1807	-	-	-	2,361	1,045	3,406	-	6,734	6,734
1808	-	-	-	3,777	9,997	13,774	-	7,374	7,374
1809	-	-	-	2,065	8,674	10,739	10	6,511	6,521
1810	-	-	-	2,669	27,297	29,966	59	2,768	2,827
1811	-	-	-	3,541	11,685	15,226	29	2,777	2,806
1812	-	-	-	4,081	357	4,438	26	2,149	2,175
1813	-	-	-	5,008	16	5,024	43	1,951	1,994
1814	-	-	-	4,455	950	5,405	9	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	-	-	-	5,731	37,654	43,385	23		
1816	-	-	-	6,420	11,943	18,363	22	7,250	7,272
1817	-	-	-	6,075	24	6,099	40	8,776	8,816
1818	-	-	-	2,291	3,559	5,850	1,855	9,856	11,711
1819	-	-	-	4,835	115,944	120,779	9	3,114	3,123
1820	-	-	-	3,904	186,724	190,628	207	4,588	4,795
1821	-	-	-	8,458	10,760	19,218	25	5,214	5,239

Appendix, N° 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

- - - - GREAT BRITAIN, (the Meal and Flour being reduced into Quarters.)

YEARS Ending the 5th of January,				INDIAN CORN and MEAL,					
				Imported from			Exported to		
				Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
				Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	-	-	-	-	6,322	6,322	-	-	-
1775	-	-	-	-	5,961	5,961	-	1,808	1,808
1776	-	-	-	-	9,609	9,609	-	-	-
1777	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1778	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1779	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1781	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1782	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1783	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1784	-	-	-	-	111	111	-	-	-
1785	-	-	-	-	46	46	-	-	-
1786	-	-	-	-	15	15	-	-	-
1787	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1788	-	-	-	-	28	28	-	-	-
1789	-	-	-	-	17	17	-	1	1
1790	-	-	-	-	54	54	-	-	-
1791	-	-	-	-	10,546	10,546	-	5,496	5,496
1792	-	-	-	-	1,248	1,248	-	-	-
1793	-	-	-	-	5,677	5,677	-	-	-
1794	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-
1795	-	-	-	-	1,600	1,600	-	1,448	1,448
1796	-	-	-	-	20,586	20,586	-	465	465
1797	-	-	-	-	28,433	28,433	-	3,289	3,289
1798	-	-	-	-	111	111	-	8,085	8,085
1799	-	-	-	-	21	21	-	587	587
1800	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	500	500
1801	-	-	-	-	11,198	11,198	-	-	-
1802	-	-	-	-	77,472	77,472	580	378	958
1803	-	-	-	-	5,262	5,262	6	1,438	1,444
1804	-	-	-	-	712	712	-	-	-
1805	-	-	-	-	244	244	-	58	58
1806	-	-	-	-	24	24	-	-	-
1807	-	-	-	-	113	113	-	-	-
1808	-	-	-	-	1,063	1,063	-	-	-
1809	-	-	-	-	4,308	4,308	-	210	210
1810	-	-	-	-	1,262	1,262	-	-	-
1811	-	-	-	-	37	37	-	-	-
1812	-	-	-	-	16	16	-	-	-
1813	-	-	-	-	17	17	-	-	-
1814	-	-	-	-	593	593	-	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
1816	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	70	70
1817	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
1818	-	-	-	-	158	158	15	-	15
1819	-	-	-	-	1,411	1,411	-	-	-
1820	-	-	-	-	27,903	27,903	431	3,961	4,392
1821	-	-	-	-	5,192	5,192	-	2,328	2,328

Appendix, N° 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL, and FLOUR, Imported into and Exported from - - - -

YEARS Ending the 5th of January,				OATS and OATMEAL,					
				Imported from			Exported to		
				Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
				Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	-	-	-	59,373	272,420	331,793	215	18,169	18,384
1775	-	-	-	53,492	349,062	402,554	880	15,553	16,433
1776	-	-	-	86,766	295,587	382,353	120	26,408	26,528
1777	-	-	-	88,670	280,592	369,262	651	33,116	33,767
1778	-	-	-	71,719	294,728	366,447	4,309	32,328	36,637
1779	-	-	-	11,847	189,324	201,171	34,349	22,885	57,234
1780	-	-	-	93,212	261,403	354,615	4,384	21,183	25,567
1781	-	-	-	43,721	152,536	196,257	798	26,287	27,085
1782	-	-	-	65,967	43,083	109,050	12,669	32,447	45,116
1783	-	-	-	27,569	10,274	37,843	856	22,146	23,002
1784	-	-	-	31,439	197,964	229,403	7,653	4,344	11,997
1785	-	-	-	122,053	147,170	269,223	2,729	10,620	13,349
1786	-	-	-	243,181	132,365	375,546	717	26,182	26,899
1787	-	-	-	239,011	242,964	481,975	862	19,225	20,087
1788	-	-	-	187,369	325,323	512,692	2,346	16,213	18,559
1789	-	-	-	202,500	213,775	416,275	302	14,316	14,618
1790	-	-	-	294,433	133,560	427,993	491	32,491	32,982
1791	-	-	-	387,270	349,156	736,426	236	14,039	14,275
1792	-	-	-	316,112	469,935	786,047	265	16,233	16,498
1793	-	-	-	557,774	450,976	1,008,750	513	24,824	25,337
1794	-	-	-	292,533	429,994	722,527	393	18,216	18,609
1795	-	-	-	378,609	484,370	862,979	70	15,989	16,059
1796	-	-	-	355,204	105,173	460,377	446	6,421	6,867
1797	-	-	-	341,431	459,942	801,373	-	12,040	12,040
1798	-	-	-	334,628	274,491	609,119	316	21,418	21,734
1799	-	-	-	362,538	411,456	773,994	706	26,552	27,258
1800	-	-	-	359,306	170,233	529,539	1,478	20,349	21,827
1801	-	-	-	2,410	542,607	545,017	69	11,950	12,019
1802	-	-	-	374	582,668	583,042	408	14,908	15,316
1803	-	-	-	341,931	241,848	583,779	254	17,328	17,582
1804	-	-	-	266,359	254,808	521,167	747	15,786	16,533
1805	-	-	-	240,023	500,370	740,393	180	18,959	19,139
1806	-	-	-	203,306	275,105	478,411	264	16,103	16,367
1807	-	-	-	357,078	183,428	540,506	2,654	33,343	35,997
1808	-	-	-	389,649	426,032	815,681	773	31,342	32,115
1809	-	-	-	579,974	34,677	614,651	1,940	25,166	27,106
1810	-	-	-	845,783	297,459	1,143,242	141	20,745	20,886
1811	-	-	-	493,231	115,918	609,149	2,131	23,504	25,635
1812	-	-	-	275,757	11,707	287,464	547	44,120	44,667
1813	-	-	-	390,926	15,109	406,035	7,116	23,336	30,452
1814	-	-	-	691,499	60,456	751,955	971	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	-	-	-	565,004	250,157	815,161	819		
1816	-	-	-	597,933	120,475	718,408	3,155	26,453	29,608
1817	-	-	-	684,430	75,278	759,708	1,648	30,822	32,470
1818	-	-	-	612,103	478,008	1,090,111	28,643	43,393	72,036
1819	-	-	-	1,072,339	986,795	2,059,134	1,417	31,889	33,306
1820	-	-	-	790,704	585,633	1,376,337	7,257	31,578	38,835
1821	-	-	-	918,362	681,538	1,599,900	1,859	26,761	28,620

Appendix, No. 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

- - - GREAT BRITAIN, (the Meal and Flour being reduced into Quarters.)

YEARS		PEASE,					
		Imported from			Exported to		
Ending							
the 5th of January,							
		Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	- - -	244	11,579	11,823	12	4,419	4,431
1775	- - -	74	8,597	8,671	3	3,315	3,318
1776	- - -	551	14,345	14,896	330	4,976	5,306
1777	- - -	116	19,017	19,133	6,123	7,041	13,164
1778	- - -	168	28,528	28,696	4,242	12,398	16,640
1779	- - -	-	27,769	27,769	6,444	9,196	15,640
1780	- - -	59	29,095	29,154	9,408	8,828	18,236
1781	- - -	225	17,491	17,716	3,853	7,442	11,295
1782	- - -	137	14,371	14,508	280	2,874	3,154
1783	- - -	8	4,943	4,951	264	6,068	6,332
1784	- - -	-	2,419	2,419	574	2,127	2,701
1785	- - -	25	18,441	18,466	460	2,543	3,003
1786	- - -	93	7,365	7,458	131	9,552	9,683
1787	- - -	74	1,623	1,697	21	5,798	5,819
1788	- - -	8	2,322	2,330	25	6,874	6,899
1789	- - -	115	1,073	1,188	144	5,038	5,182
1790	- - -	222	7	229	47	9,688	9,735
1791	- - -	44	3,508	3,552	14	7,171	7,185
1792	- - -	6	1,976	1,982	-	5,440	5,440
1793	- - -	9	4,793	4,802	-	5,629	5,629
1794	- - -	-	18,553	18,553	-	4,582	4,582
1795	- - -	-	40,368	40,368	-	3,280	3,280
1796	- - -	-	20,263	20,263	-	1,315	1,315
1797	- - -	-	32,711	32,711	-	2,112	2,112
1798	- - -	-	17,818	17,818	-	2,835	2,835
1799	- - -	51	21,632	21,683	-	3,415	3,415
1800	- - -	-	8,750	8,750	-	2,311	2,311
1801	- - -	-	26,796	26,796	-	1,822	1,822
1802	- - -	-	44,218	44,218	15	1,493	1,508
1803	- - -	113	10,558	10,671	64	2,306	2,370
1804	- - -	611	23,381	23,992	31	2,595	2,626
1805	- - -	1,078	18,570	19,648	-	2,999	2,999
1806	- - -	1,634	8,583	10,217	10	3,876	3,886
1807	- - -	1,388	171	1,559	-	4,682	4,682
1808	- - -	1,390	4,680	6,070	810	2,325	3,135
1809	- - -	75	12,807	12,882	1,526	3,534	5,060
1810	- - -	38	33,071	33,109	1,260	2,400	3,660
1811	- - -	216	12,053	12,269	1,083	3,048	4,131
1812	- - -	50	4,994	5,044	1,222	3,371	4,593
1813	- - -	51	661	712	782	2,885	3,667
1814	- - -	77	7,526	7,603	1,667	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	- - -	535	9,306	9,841	706	6,821	7,527
1816	- - -	437	1,187	1,624	164	4,096	4,260
1817	- - -	282	879	1,161	49	4,757	4,806
1818	- - -	15	13,147	13,162	542	6,475	7,017
1819	- - -	10	61,997	62,007	140	3,483	3,623
1820	- - -	7	42,004	42,011	289	3,985	4,274
1821	- - -	474	8,453	8,927	224	4,267	4,491

Appendix, N° 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL and FLOUR, Imported into and Exported from - - - -

YEARS Ending the 5th of January,		RYE and RYE MEAL,					
		Imported from			Exported to		
		Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	-	129	9,270	9,399	—	—	—
1775	-	149	41,278	41,427	866	1,394	2,260
1776	-	32	34,077	34,109	-	2,722	2,722
1777	-	-	3,415	3,415	30	10,918	10,948
1778	-	236	18,218	18,454	-	946	946
1779	-	17	9,310	9,327	150	1,556	1,706
1780	-	-	1,693	1,693	541	2,682	3,223
1781	-	-	-	-	-	1,673	1,673
1782	-	-	10,743	10,743	-	2,701	2,701
1783	-	-	-	-	-	4,003	4,003
1784	-	-	81,327	81,327	-	3,480	3,480
1785	-	10	24,769	24,779	-	6,732	6,732
1786	-	-	28,761	28,761	-	13,163	13,163
1787	-	-	3,643	3,643	-	6,736	6,736
1788	-	-	7,048	7,048	-	12,683	12,683
1789	-	-	-	-	-	31,220	31,220
1790	-	-	14,845	14,845	-	40,151	40,151
1791	-	356	21,327	21,683	-	47	47
1792	-	293	56,085	56,378	-	3,528	3,528
1793	-	491	12,536	13,027	-	16,151	16,151
1794	-	30	55,564	55,594	-	512	512
1795	-	414	25,037	25,451	21	1,898	1,919
1796	-	-	21,438	21,438	-	274	274
1797	-	-	163,650	163,650	-	122	122
1798	-	-	8,258	8,258	-	487	487
1799	-	-	6,925	6,925	-	680	680
1800	-	-	22,751	22,751	-	144	144
1801	-	-	144,531	144,531	-	419	419
1802	-	-	146,732	146,732	-	1,852	1,852
1803	-	282	15,196	15,478	-	6,484	6,484
1804	-	752	3,347	4,099	-	1,030	1,030
1805	-	206	2,438	2,644	-	3,798	3,798
1806	-	235	24,032	24,267	-	3,808	3,808
1807	-	330	684	1,014	160	3,860	4,020
1808	-	431	7,309	7,740	-	956	956
1809	-	573	4,725	5,298	179	3,756	3,935
1810	-	425	13,190	13,615	-	711	711
1811	-	20	90,963	90,983	-	8,932	8,932
1812	-	21	27,809	27,830	-	35,523	35,523
1813	-	177	72,642	72,819	-	21,809	21,809
1814	-	420	34,620	35,040	-	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	-	4	6,040	6,044	-	18,980	18,980
1816	-	213	1,593	1,806	-	17,892	17,892
1817	-	43	15,074	15,117	-	8,094	8,094
1818	-	614	139,478	140,092	3,625	43,307	46,932
1819	-	4	78,081	78,085	-	68	68
1820	-	12	18,662	18,674	-	848	848
1821	-	138	12,101	12,239	75	2,413	2,488

Appendix, N° 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

- - - - GREAT BRITAIN, (the Meal and Flour being reduced into Quarters.)

YEARS		WHEAT and WHEAT FLOUR,					
		Imported from			Exported to		
		Ending			the 5th of January,		
		Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	- - -	2,907	53,950	56,857	739	6,898	7,637
1775	- - -	4,423	284,726	289,149	732	15,196	15,928
1776	- - -	13,107	547,881	560,988	1,081	89,956	91,037
1777	- - -	11,517	9,061	20,578	37,207	173,457	210,664
1778	- - -	16,706	216,617	233,323	30,286	57,400	87,686
1779	- - -	2,966	103,428	106,394	53,762	87,308	141,070
1780	- - -	1,777	3,262	5,039	64,827	157,434	222,261
1781	- - -	2,384	1,531	3,915	46,439	177,620	224,059
1782	- - -	41,315	118,551	159,866	2,511	100,510	103,021
1783	- - -	4,146	76,549	80,695	1,295	143,857	145,152
1784	- - -	558	583,625	584,183	39,482	12,461	51,943
1785	- - -	14,423	202,524	216,947	50,262	39,026	89,288
1786	- - -	23,810	87,053	110,863	7,899	124,786	132,685
1787	- - -	10,928	40,535	51,463	8,869	196,597	205,466
1788	- - -	10,225	49,114	59,339	974	119,562	120,536
1789	- - -	34,643	114,067	148,710	790	82,181	82,971
1790	- - -	57,951	54,705	112,656	506	139,508	140,014
1791	- - -	35,444	187,113	222,557	462	30,430	30,892
1792	- - -	18,523	450,533	469,056	1,392	69,234	70,626
1793	- - -	1,272	21,145	22,417	1,806	298,472	300,278
1794	- - -	14,572	475,826	490,398	1,281	75,588	76,869
1795	- - -	9,157	318,745	327,902	43,097	111,951	155,048
1796	- - -	14,493	299,300	313,793	804	18,035	18,839
1797	- - -	4	879,196	879,200	409	24,270	24,679
1798	- - -	40,565	421,202	461,767	2,291	52,234	54,525
1799	- - -	17,490	379,231	396,721	9,626	50,156	59,782
1800	- - -	15,315	447,870	463,185	5,202	34,160	39,362
1801	- - -	749	1,263,771	1,264,520	3,726	18,287	22,013
1802	- - -	524	1,424,242	1,424,766	585	27,821	28,406
1803	- - -	109,519	538,145	647,664	1,200	148,104	149,304
1804	- - -	61,270	312,455	373,725	2,059	74,521	76,580
1805	- - -	70,100	391,040	461,140	707	62,366	63,073
1806	- - -	84,412	836,422	920,834	754	77,201	77,955
1807	- - -	102,483	207,859	310,342	2,368	27,198	29,566
1808	- - -	45,110	359,831	404,941	2,429	22,684	25,113
1809	- - -	43,496	41,388	84,884	28,521	69,484	98,005
1810	- - -	68,124	387,884	456,008	843	30,435	31,278
1811	- - -	127,510	1,439,614	1,567,124	2,354	73,431	75,785
1812	- - -	147,567	188,563	336,130	1,680	96,085	97,765
1813	- - -	160,842	128,664	289,506	645	45,680	46,325
1814	- - -	217,154	341,846	559,000	2,678	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	- - -	228,610	623,956	852,566	2,322		
1816	- - -	192,026	192,449	384,475	447	227,500	227,947
1817	- - -	122,836	209,655	332,491	12,446	109,165	121,611
1818	- - -	60,817	1,029,038	1,089,855	81,933	235,591	317,524
1819	- - -	111,383	1,582,878	1,694,261	8,276	50,392	58,668
1820	- - -	155,980	469,658	625,638	4,126	40,563	44,689
1821	- - -	409,283	587,195	996,478	6,134	88,523	94,657

Appendix, N° 6.—Account of Grain, &c.—continued.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL and FLOUR, Imported into and Exported from GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

YEARS Ending the 5th of January,				TOTAL of CORN, GRAIN, MEAL and FLOUR of all Sorts,					
				Imported from			Exported to		
				Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.	Ireland.	All other Parts.	Total.
				Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1774	-	-	-	71,715	458,113	529,828	1,159	41,982	43,141
1775	-	-	-	78,420	857,492	935,912	2,728	48,501	51,229
1776	-	-	-	121,902	1,046,597	1,168,499	2,079	146,681	148,760
1777	-	-	-	104,641	335,235	439,876	45,149	276,640	321,789
1778	-	-	-	93,097	596,931	690,028	39,891	142,414	182,305
1779	-	-	-	28,980	388,561	417,541	95,531	144,949	240,480
1780	-	-	-	100,209	311,971	412,180	81,538	223,506	305,044
1781	-	-	-	46,864	178,782	225,646	60,199	275,505	335,704
1782	-	-	-	108,303	189,165	297,468	23,290	182,946	206,236
1783	-	-	-	43,436	96,964	140,400	8,261	226,482	234,743
1784	-	-	-	36,680	1,036,289	1,072,969	51,328	38,188	89,516
1785	-	-	-	137,096	499,575	636,671	58,074	86,952	145,026
1786	-	-	-	291,261	308,130	599,391	18,567	247,536	266,103
1787	-	-	-	303,961	334,285	638,246	9,936	258,801	268,737
1788	-	-	-	238,713	425,113	663,826	4,373	192,861	197,234
1789	-	-	-	248,005	339,484	587,489	3,430	206,770	210,200
1790	-	-	-	361,940	205,127	567,067	1,941	463,293	465,234
1791	-	-	-	444,040	619,985	1,064,025	1,032	86,157	87,189
1792	-	-	-	348,856	1,039,732	1,388,588	2,162	105,065	107,227
1793	-	-	-	566,839	644,812	1,211,651	16,592	371,569	388,161
1794	-	-	-	314,732	1,149,231	1,463,963	2,492	109,380	111,872
1795	-	-	-	407,225	1,069,886	1,477,111	44,884	143,354	188,238
1796	-	-	-	371,681	498,653	870,334	2,044	30,740	32,784
1797	-	-	-	342,314	1,638,292	1,980,606	3,424	54,635	58,059
1798	-	-	-	388,048	790,617	1,178,665	2,787	98,618	101,405
1799	-	-	-	433,646	894,510	1,328,156	10,336	100,334	110,670
1800	-	-	-	376,335	672,230	1,048,565	28,358	70,195	98,553
1801	-	-	-	3,237	2,135,597	2,138,834	4,709	42,103	46,812
1802	-	-	-	898	2,405,544	2,406,442	2,038	53,092	55,130
1803	-	-	-	460,616	823,283	1,283,899	3,420	185,283	188,703
1804	-	-	-	343,524	595,936	939,460	21,703	112,707	134,410
1805	-	-	-	316,988	930,605	1,247,593	98,810	111,897	210,707
1806	-	-	-	307,252	1,180,538	1,487,790	1,779	112,282	114,061
1807	-	-	-	466,967	395,358	862,325	19,441	78,378	97,819
1808	-	-	-	463,405	811,955	1,275,360	5,155	70,258	75,413
1809	-	-	-	656,769	111,243	768,012	34,533	109,872	144,405
1810	-	-	-	933,658	773,513	1,707,171	6,339	58,773	65,112
1811	-	-	-	632,839	1,688,268	2,321,107	24,029	120,416	144,445
1812	-	-	-	430,189	273,573	703,762	31,138	227,736	258,874
1813	-	-	-	600,266	257,514	857,780	12,892	144,589	157,481
1814	-	-	-	977,165	465,699	1,442,864	15,702	Records destroyed by Fire.	
1815	-	-	-	817,228	955,801	1,773,029	19,439	226,236	245,675
1816	-	-	-	824,548	329,710	1,154,258	5,321	289,930	295,251
1817	-	-	-	877,295	315,775	1,193,070	15,105	194,385	209,490
1818	-	-	-	703,859	1,797,181	2,501,040	146,553	372,841	519,394
1819	-	-	-	1,215,791	3,522,729	4,738,520	26,388	91,145	117,533
1820	-	-	-	972,441	1,702,930	2,675,371	15,596	89,633	105,229
1821	-	-	-	1,425,058	1,333,910	2,758,968	12,806	134,984	147,790

Custom House, London, }
11th June 1821.

William Irving.

Appendix, N° 7.

AN ACCOUNT of the total Sum paid in Bounty upon the exportation of Grain from Great Britain, in each Year between the Years 1697 and 1774, both inclusive.

YEARS.	Amount of Bounty paid.	YEARS.	Amount of Bounty paid.
	£.		£.
1697 - - -	14,712	1736 - - -	50,562
1698 - - -	11,653	1737 - - -	102,511
1699 - - -	408	1738 - - -	177,737
1700 - - -	- - -	1739 - - -	145,702
1701 - - -	- - -	1740 - - -	39,366
1702 - - -	42,624	1741 - - -	18,580
1703 - - -	61,232	1742 - - -	90,640
1704 - - -	44,403	1743 - - -	131,459
1705 - - -	48,104	1744 - - -	116,896
1706 - - -	74,277	1745 - - -	131,879
1707 - - -	38,997	1746 - - -	104,562
1708 - - -	37,652	1747 - - -	127,011
1709 - - -	94,120	1748 - - -	189,501
1710 - - -	16,293	1749 - - -	222,184
1711 - - -	44,468	1750 - - -	262,583
1712 - - -	65,872	1751 - - -	154,905
1713 - - -	84,803	1752 - - -	186,218
1714 - - -	77,157	1753 - - -	219,503
1715 - - -	60,669	1754 - - -	141,131
1716 - - -	56,027	1755 - - -	164,520
1717 - - -	48,272	1756 - - -	109,584
1718 - - -	60,495	1757 - - -	22,658
1719 - - -	83,398	1758 - - -	3,752
1720 - - -	68,032	1759 - - -	53,818
1721 - - -	64,375	1760 - - -	118,249
1722 - - -	91,304	1761 - - -	153,615
1723 - - -	86,558	1762 - - -	128,985
1724 - - -	77,935	1763 - - -	152,713
1725 - - -	107,524	1764 - - -	149,608
1726 - - -	83,308	1765 - - -	33,935
1727 - - -	48,756	1766 - - -	114,206
1728 - - -	28,296	1767 - - -	8,116
1729 - - -	18,945	1768 - - -	238
1730 - - -	40,590	1769 - - -	10
1731 - - -	58,492	1770 - - -	14,770
1732 - - -	60,760	1771 - - -	6,170
1733 - - -	114,654	1772 - - -	5
1734 - - -	171,000	1773 - - -	13
1735 - - -	100,038	1774 - - -	3,078

Custom House, London, }
15th June 1821.

William Irving.

Appendix, N° 8

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Corn and Grain of all Sorts, Meal and Flour, imported into Great Britain,
the Price of the Year being the real Value,

SPECIES OF GRAIN, &c.						YEAR 1813.		
						Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.
Imported into Great Britain from Ireland.	Barley - - - - -	Quarters. bus.	S. d.	£. s. d.				
	Beans - - - - -	63,560 -	58 4	185,383 6 8				
	Oats - - - - -	4,455 -	76 5	17,021 16 3				
	Pease - - - - -	645,247 -	39 5	1,271,674 5 11				
	Rye - - - - -	77 -	78 6	302 4 6				
	Wheat - - - - -	420 -	70 7	1,482 5 -				
		171,334 -	108 9	931,628 12 6				
	TOTAL of Corn and Grain	885,093 -	-	2,407,492 10 10				
	Barley Meal - - - - -	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	-	-				
	Bean Meal - - - - -	-	-	-				
Oatmeal - - - - -	72,681 - -	34 9	126,283 4 9					
Rye Meal - - - - -	-	-	-					
Wheat Meal and Flour - - - - -	160,369 - -	31 1	249,240 3 1					
TOTAL of Meal and Flour	233,050 - -	-	375,523 7 10					
TOTAL VALUE from Ireland	- - -	-	2,783,015 18 8					
Imported into Great Britain from Foreign Parts.	Barley - - - - -	Quarters. bus.	S. d.	£. s. d.				
	Beans - - - - -	19,697 -	58 4	57,449 11 8				
	Indian Corn - - - - -	950 -	76 5	3,629 15 10				
	Malt - - - - -	335 -	58 4	977 1 8				
	Oats - - - - -	9 -	78 -	35 2 -				
	Pease - - - - -	60,440 -	39 5	119,117 3 4				
	Rye - - - - -	7,526 -	78 6	29,539 11 -				
	Wheat - - - - -	34,405 -	70 7	121,420 19 7				
		340,846 -	108 9	1,853,350 2 6				
	TOTAL of Corn and Grain	464,208 -	-	2,185,519 7 7				
Barley Meal - - - - -	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	-	-					
Indian Meal - - - - -	39 - -	16 8	32 10 -					
Oatmeal - - - - -	885 - -	16 8	737 10 -					
Rye Meal - - - - -	25 - -	34 9	43 8 9					
Wheat Meal and Flour - - - - -	813 - -	20 2	819 15 6					
	3,500 - -	31 1	5,439 11 8					
TOTAL of Meal and Flour	5,262 - -	-	7,072 15 11					
TOTAL VALUE from Foreign Parts	- - -	-	2,192,592 3 6					
AGGREGATE VALUE of Corn, Grain, Meal and Flour, imported into Great Britain, from all parts of the World						- - -	-	4,975,608 2 2

Appendix, N° 8.

from 1813 to 1820, both inclusive; distinguishing Ireland from Foreign Parts; and also the quantity of each Species, and the Total Import of each Year in Value.

YEAR 1814.			YEAR 1815.			YEAR 1816.		
Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.
<i>Quarters. bus.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>£. s. d.</i>	<i>Quarters. bus.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>£. s. d.</i>	<i>Quarters. bus.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>£. s. d.</i>
17,344 2	37 4	32,375 18 8	27,519 4	30 3	41,623 4 10	63,627 5	33 5	106,311 3 —
5,730 7	46 7	13,348 3 3	6,419 7	36 1	11,582 10 6	6,075 1	38 4	11,643 19 9
535,082 5	26 6	708,984 9 6	576,936 5	23 10	687,516 2 11	663,237 1	23 6	779,303 12 5
535 4	50 —	1,338 15 —	436 7	38 10	848 5 4	282 1	38 4	540 14 9
4 3	44 6	9 14 8	213 1	37 10	403 3 3	43 3	43 2	93 12 4
187,528 4	73 11	693,074 1 7	161,664 5	64 4	520,021 4 3	99,406 3	75 10	376,915 16 9
746,226 1	—	1,449,131 2 8	773,190 5	—	1,261,994 11 1	832,671 6	—	1,274,808 19 —
<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>			<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>			<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>		
—	—	—	—	—	—	5 —	9 7	2 7 11
47,019 3 4	26 5	62,105 6 —	32,995 2 2	24 —	39,594 12 5	33,303 — 21	22 8	37,743 12 3
143,787 — 11	21 1	151,575 11 4	106,262 3 18	18 5	97,850 8 7	82,004 1 15	21 8	88,838 1 9
190,806 3 15	—	213,680 17 4	139,258 1 20	—	137,445 1 —	115,312 2 8	—	126,584 1 11
—	—	1,662,812 — —	—	—	1,399,439 12 1	—	—	1,401,393 — 11
<i>Quarters. bus.</i>			<i>Quarters. bus.</i>			<i>Quarters. bus.</i>		
28,687 3	37 4	53,549 15 4	2,058 6	30 3	3,113 17 2	14,864 6	33 5	24,836 10 5
37,654 3	46 7	87,703 6 4	11,943 —	36 1	21,547 3 3	24 4	38 4	46 19 2
1 —	37 4	1 17 4	3 3	30 3	5 2 1	— 2	33 5	— 8 4
3 4	50 —	8 15 —	—	—	—	—	—	—
250,156 2	26 6	331,457 — 7	120,314 1	23 10	143,374 6 8	75,277 4	23 6	88,451 1 3
9,305 7	50 —	23,264 13 9	1,187 —	38 10	2,304 15 2	879 3	38 4	1,685 9 5
6,040 3	44 6	13,439 19 7	494 3	37 10	935 3 10	15,074 2	43 2	32,535 5 1
600,601 —	73 11	2,219,721 3 11	134,462 —	64 4	432,519 8 8	202,304 6	75 10	767,072 3 6
932,449 6	—	2,729,146 8 10	270,462 5	—	603,799 16 10	308,425 3	—	914,627 17 2
<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>			<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>			<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 —	10 8	10 8	— 1 —	8 8	2 2	—	—	—
1 1 —	26 5	1 13 —	253 2 14	24 —	304 7 —	—	—	—
—	—	—	4,157 3 18	10 10	2,252 4 2	—	—	—
81,742 3 10	21 1	86,170 11 6	202,956 1 7	18 5	186,888 18 9	25,726 1 2	21 8	27,870 2 5
81,745 — 10	—	86,172 15 2	207,368 — 11	—	189,445 12 1	25,726 1 2	—	27,870 2 5
—	—	2,815,319 4 —	—	—	793,245 8 11	—	—	942,497 19 7
—	—	4,478,131 4 —	—	—	2,192,685 1 —	—	—	2,343,891 — 6

(continued.)

Appendix, No 8.—Account of the Quantity of Corn and Grain, &c.—continued.

SPECIES OF GRAIN, &c.										YEAR 1817.																	
										Quantities Imported.		Average Prices in England and Wales.		Value as calculated at such Prices.													
										Quarters	bus.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.											
Imported into Great Britain from Ireland.										Barley	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,982	1	48	3	67,506	17	6				
										Beans	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,291	-	52	-	5,956	12	-				
										Oats	-	-	-	-	-	-	595,346	6	32	1	955,035	8	2				
										Pease	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	51	5	38	11	3				
										Rye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
										Wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,917	-	94	9	255,431	15	9				
										TOTAL of Corn and Grain						-	-	679,551	7	-	-	1,283,969	4	8			
																				Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
										Barley Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	128	-	-	13	9	88	-	-			
										Bean Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Oatmeal	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,332	3	5	31	5	41,364	8	6													
Rye Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,323	-	-	16	2	1,877	15	2													
Wheat Meal and Flour	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,149	-	25	27	1	32,702	1	6													
TOTAL of Meal and Flour						-	-	52,933	-	2	-	76,032	5	2													
TOTAL VALUE from Ireland						-	-	-	-	-	-	1,360,001	9	10													
										Quarters	bus.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.											
Imported into Great Britain from Foreign Parts.										Barley	-	-	-	-	-	-	133,432	4	48	3	321,905	18	1				
										Beans	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,559	1	52	-	9,253	14	6				
										Indian Corn	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	48	3	5	14	7				
										Malt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
										Oats	-	-	-	-	-	-	478,007	-	32	1	766,802	17	11				
										Pease	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,146	7	51	5	33,798	8	6				
										Rye	-	-	-	-	-	-	134,517	2	56	6	380,011	4	7				
										Wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	716,514	7	94	9	3,394,489	4	5				
										TOTAL of Corn and Grain						-	-	1,479,180	-	-	-	4,906,267	2	7			
																				Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Barley Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,233	3	-	13	9	848	4	-													
Indian Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	532	-	21	13	9	365	17	7													
Oatmeal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	31	5	1	4	11													
Rye Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,781	1	23	16	2	15,181	13	6													
Wheat Meal and Flour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,093,830	3	21	27	1	1,481,229	7	11													
TOTAL of Meal and Flour						-	-	1,114,379	-	14	-	1,497,626	7	11													
TOTAL VALUE from Foreign Parts						-	-	-	-	-	-	6,403,893	10	6													
AGGREGATE VALUE of Corn, Grain, Meal and Flour, imported into Great Britain, from all parts of the World										-	-	-	-	-	7,763,895	-	4										

Custom House, London,

March 23, 1821.

Appendix, N° 8.—Account of the Quantity of Corn and Grain, &c.—continued.

YEAR 1818.			YEAR 1819.			YEAR 1820.		
Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Imported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.
Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.	Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.	Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.
27,167 6	53 6	72,673 14 8	21,813 6	46 8	50,898 15 —	88,274 1	33 10	149,330 7 11
4,767 5	63 1	15,037 17 8	3,903 6	55 4	10,800 7 6	8,457 6	43 6	18,395 12 1
1,004,117 2	32 11	1,652,609 12 9	760,508 2	29 4	1,115,412 2 —	894,072 2	24 4	1,087,787 18 1
10 —	59 11	29 19 2	7 4	56 —	21 — —	474 4	44 11	1,065 12 11
4 1	54 10	11 6 2	12 4	48 7	30 7 3	138 3	40 10	282 10 4
99,813 4	84 1	419,632 11 9	129,258 4	73 —	471,793 10 6	356,402 —	65 7	1,168,701 11 2
1,135,880 2	—	2,159,995 2 2	915,504 2	—	1,648,956 2 3	1,347,819 —	—	2,425,563 12 6
Cwts. qrs. lbs.			Cwts. qrs. lbs.			Cwts. qrs. lbs.		
180 — —	15 3	137 5 —	70 —	13 4	46 13 4	237 2 —	9 8	114 15 10
231 — —	18 —	207 18 —	—	—	—	—	—	—
107,206 2 24	28 10	154,556 7 —	47,451 3 13	25 3	59,907 19 7	38,169 3 7	20 5	38,965 — 4
40,493 3 3	24 —	48,592 10 8	93,526 3 26	20 10	97,423 18 9	185,085 — 21	18 9	173,517 7 3
148,111 1 27	—	203,494 — 8	141,048 3 11	—	157,378 11 8	223,492 2 —	—	212,597 3 5
—	—	2,363,489 2 10	—	—	1,806,334 13 11	—	—	2,638,160 15 11
Quarters. bus.			Quarters. bus.			Quarters. bus.		
695,621 5	53 6	1,860,787 16 11	372,345 6	46 8	868,806 15 —	28,670 5	33 10	48,501 2 9
115,944 1	63 1	365,707 1 11	186,724 2	55 4	516,603 15 2	10,760 2	43 6	23,403 10 10
1,411 3	53 6	3,775 8 7	27,902 5	46 8	65,106 2 6	5,185 5	33 10	8,772 7 —
986,793 3	32 11	1,624,097 8 7	585,633 3	29 4	858,928 19 —	681,538 —	24 4	829,204 11 4
61,996 4	59 11	185,731 3 7	42,004 1	56 —	117,611 11 —	8,453 2	44 11	18,984 11 10
78,080 7	54 10	214,071 14 8	18,662 1	48 7	45,333 8 3	12,101 3	40 10	24,706 19 6
1,410,073 —	84 1	5,928,181 18 1	442,064 —	73 —	1,613,533 12 —	484,453 —	65 7	1,588,602 2 7
3,349,920 7	—	10,182,352 12 4	1,675,336 2	—	4,085,924 2 11	1,231,162 1	—	2,542,175 5 10
Cwts. qrs. lbs.			Cwts. qrs. lbs.			Cwts. qrs. lbs.		
3 3 —	15 3	2 17 2	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	1 — 20	13 4	— 15 9	25 — 24	9 8	12 3 9
2 2 23	28 10	3 18 —	—	—	—	— 1 22	20 5	— 9 1
604,817 — 22	24 —	725,780 12 8	96,577 2 1	20 10	100,601 11 6	359,598 2 6	18 9	337,123 12 11
604,823 2 17	—	725,787 7 10	96,578 2 21	—	100,602 7 3	359,624 — 24	—	337,136 5 9
—	—	10,908,140 — 2	—	—	4,186,526 10 2	—	—	2,879,311 11 7
—	—	13,271,629 3 —	—	—	5,992,861 4 1	—	—	5,517,472 7 6

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 9.

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Duty and Bounty paid on Corn of all sorts imported into, and exported from Great Britain, from and to Foreign Countries and our Colonies; showing the Amount in each Year, from 1775 to 1814.

YEARS.	DUTIES RECEIVED,			BOUNTIES PAID,		
	On Corn Imported.			On Corn Imported.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1775	-	-	-	-	-	-
1776	-	-	-	-	-	-
1777	-	-	-	-	-	-
1778	-	-	-	-	-	-
1779	-	-	-	-	-	-
1780	-	-	-	-	-	-
1781	-	-	-	-	-	-
1782	-	-	-	-	-	-
1783	-	-	-	-	-	-
1784	-	-	-	-	-	-
1785	-	-	-	-	-	-
1786	-	-	-	-	-	-
1787	-	-	-	-	-	-
1788	-	-	-	-	-	-
1789	6,202	19	10½	-	-	-
1790	12,661	2	7½	-	-	-
1791	19,085	-	-	-	-	-
1792	28,108	5	5½	-	-	-
1793	30,437	8	10	-	-	-
1794	18,494	4	3½	-	-	-
1795	1,069	12	4	-	-	-
1796	-	4	8	573,418	4	9
1797	8,736	3	6	28,565	6	1
1798	60,381	8	10½	454	13	9
1799	16,419	18	10½	16	-	7
1800	785	3	10	44,836	13	-
1801	-	-	-	1,420,355	1	1
1802	639	11	2	715,323	16	4
1803	16,634	9	3	43,977	9	10
1804	27,728	8	-	4,791	3	11½
1805	34,141	9	3	21,799	-	8
1806	36,855	8	11	-	-	-
1807	41,943	11	-	129	11	2
1808	3,779	15	9	-	-	-
1809	47,840	5	3	-	-	-
1810	75,024	13	5	138	8	9
1811	10,419	17	6	-	-	-
1812	9,282	17	7	-	-	-
1814	40,259	13	6	-	-	-

Note.—The Records of the Year 1813, were destroyed by fire.

Custom House, London, }
4th June 1821.

William Irving.

Appendix, N° 10.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Corn and Grain of all Sorts, Meal, Flour and Rice, imported into Ireland, from 1813 to 1820, both inclusive, distinguishing Great Britain from Foreign Parts, and also the Quantity of each Species, the Price of the Year being the real Value, and the Total Import of each Year in Value.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.		
YEARS.	IMPORTED FROM GREAT BRITAIN.												
	Barley.	Beans and Peas.	Indian Corn.	Malt.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Wheat.	Wheat Flour.	Wheat Meal.	Total Quantity Imported.			TOTAL IMPORT IN VALUE.
										Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.	
	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£. s. d.
1813	15,193	2,406	- -	10,707	856	33	3,311	638	- -	32,473	671	3,015	61,220 17 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
1814	24,751	1,242	- -	32,088	338	1,183	1,984	2,479	42	60,403	3,704	594	82,068 16 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1815	2,477	1,108	- -	3,558	537	7	3,335	- - -	25	11,015	32	928	16,150 6 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1816	783	1,061	- -	361	2,302	650	14,869	3,182	- -	19,376	3,832	297	40,003 6 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1817	53,800	8,581	- -	1,966	44,845	27,686 $\frac{3}{4}$	47,605 $\frac{1}{2}$	238,322 $\frac{3}{4}$	- -	156,797 $\frac{1}{2}$	266,009 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,755 $\frac{1}{4}$	650,209 8 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
1818	40,953	1,344	- -	23,939 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,531	2,154 $\frac{1}{2}$	13,423	9,423 $\frac{1}{4}$	- -	81,190 $\frac{1}{4}$	11,577 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,232 $\frac{1}{2}$	141,803 2 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1819	4,985	2,834	764	12,590	1,790	4,387 $\frac{3}{4}$	6,115	1,028 $\frac{3}{4}$	- -	29,078	5,416 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,224 $\frac{1}{2}$	59,450 9 4
1820	10,846	856	- -	535	1,842	728 $\frac{1}{4}$	81	- - -	- -	14,160	728 $\frac{1}{4}$	990 $\frac{3}{4}$	13,118 19 7

1.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.				
YEARS.	IMPORTED FROM FOREIGN PARTS.									TOTAL IMPORT IN VALUE.		
	Barley.	Beans and Peas.	Oats.	Wheat.	Wheat Flour.	Wheat Meal.	Total Quantity Imported.					
							Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.			
	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£.	s.	d.
1813	- - -	42	- - -	52	- - -	- - -	94	- - -	1,861	4,875	1	2
1814	1,212	- - -	155	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,367	- - -	436	2,435	—	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
1815	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,025	5,467	10	—
1816	- - -	20	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	20	- -	3,598	10,627	12	—
1817	120	20	8,808	17,897	83,828 $\frac{3}{4}$	176	26,845	84,004 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,193	202,180	16	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1818	1,098	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	951 $\frac{1}{2}$	17,314	1,067	- - -	19,376	1,067	2,056 $\frac{1}{2}$	48,053	3	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
1819	1,840	31	60	4,177	- - -	- - -	6,108	- - -	811 $\frac{1}{2}$	12,659	3	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
1820	- - -	142	413	- - -	- - -	- - -	555	- - -	2,761 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,883	12	— $\frac{1}{4}$

(continued.)

Appendix, N° 10.—Account of the Quantity of Corn and Grain, &c.—*continued.*

TOTAL QUANTITY IMPORTED FROM ALL PARTS.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
YEARS.	Barley.	Beans and Peas.	Indian Corn.	Malt.	Oats.	Oatmeal.	Wheat.
	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
1813 - - -	15,193	2,448	- - -	10,707	856	33	3,363
1814 - - -	25,963	1,242	- - -	32,088	493	1,183	1,984
1815 - - -	2,477	1,108	- - -	3,558	537	7	3,335
1816 - - -	783	1,081	- - -	361	2,302	650	14,869
1817 - - -	53,920	8,601	- - -	1,966	53,653	27,686 $\frac{3}{4}$	65,502 $\frac{1}{2}$
1818 - - -	42,051	1,356 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	23,939 $\frac{1}{4}$	2,482 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,154 $\frac{1}{2}$	30,737
1819 - - -	6,825	2,865	764	12,590	1,850	4,387 $\frac{3}{4}$	10,292
1820 - - -	10,846	998	- - -	535	2,255	728 $\frac{1}{4}$	81

1.	9.	10.	11.			12.
YEARS.	Wheat Flour.	Wheat Meal.	Total Quantity Imported.			TOTAL IMPORT IN VALUE.
			Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.	
	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>£. s. d.</i>
1813 - - -	638	- - -	32,567	671	4,876	66,095 18 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
1814 - - -	2,479	42	61,770	3,704	1,030	84,503 17 3
1815 - - -	- - -	25	11,015	32	2,953	21,617 16 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1816 - - -	3,182	- - -	19,396	3,832	3,895	50,630 18 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1817 - - -	322,151 $\frac{1}{2}$	176	183,642 $\frac{1}{2}$	350,014 $\frac{1}{4}$	8,948 $\frac{1}{4}$	852,390 4 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
1818 - - -	10,490 $\frac{1}{4}$	- - -	100,566 $\frac{1}{4}$	12,644 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,289	189,856 5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1819 - - -	1,028 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - -	35,186	5,416 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,036	72,109 12 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1820 - - -	- - -	- - -	14,715	728 $\frac{1}{4}$	3,752 $\frac{1}{4}$	19,002 11 7 $\frac{1}{4}$

Note.—For Prices, see Return signed John Moore, Register of Corn Returns.

Custom House, Dublin,
11th April 1821. }W^m Marrable,
Inspector Gen^l of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 11.

AN ACCOUNT of the value of the Corn, Meal, Malt and Flour, exported from Ireland into Great Britain, and of the value of British Manufactures imported into Ireland, in each year, from the 1st January 1801 to 5th January 1821:

YEARS Ended 5th January	OFFICIAL VALUE								
	Of CORN, MEAL, MALT and FLOUR, EXPORTED FROM IRELAND INTO GREAT BRITAIN.						Of British Manufactures Imported Into Ireland.		
	Irish Produce.			British & Foreign.			TOTAL.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1802	-	-	-	254	-	-	254	-	-
1803	529,383	3	6	9,865	13	4	539,248	16	10
1804	361,931	2	8	436	18	8	362,368	1	4
1805	345,792	12	-	489	15	-	346,282	7	-
1806	333,181	11	4	907	4	-	334,088	15	4
1807	435,031	6	8	1,136	-	-	436,167	6	8
1808	413,875	10	4	432	-	-	414,307	10	4
1809	516,316	15	-	2,161	14	-	518,478	9	-
1810	729,271	17	10	8,703	12	-	737,975	9	10
1811	582,009	3	6	2,634	9	-	584,643	12	6
1812	601,088	14	8	2,296	13	-	603,385	7	8
1813	729,512	5	-	5,730	16	-	735,243	1	-
1814	1,069,945	2	8	60	8	-	1,070,005	10	8
1815	929,934	5	10	-	-	-	929,934	5	10
1816	811,566	4	2	-	-	-	811,566	4	2
1817	782,728	17	-	734	-	-	783,462	17	-
1818	540,343	10	8	25,450	8	-	565,793	18	8
1819	934,961	12	10	5,835	2	-	940,796	14	10
1820	900,567	17	6	746	5	-	901,314	2	6
1821	1,754,789	15	10	1,413	10	-	1,756,203	5	10

Note.—All articles admitted free, and those subject to duty, that have undergone any kind of manufacture in Great Britain, are included in this statement.

Custom House, Dublin, }
14th June 1821. }

W^m Murrable,
Inspector Gen^l of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 12.

AN ACCOUNT of the quantity of Corn and Grain of all Sorts, Meal and Flour, exported from Great Britain, from 1813 to 1820, both inclusive; distinguishing the quantity of each species; the Price of the Year being the real Value, and the Total Export of each Year in Value.

SPECIES OF GRAIN, &c.		YEAR 1813.			YEAR 1814.		
		Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales	Value as calculated at such Prices.
		Quarters. bus.	S. d.	£. s. d.	Quarters. bus.	S. d.	£. s. d.
Exported from Great Britain to all Parts of the World.	Barley	-	-	-	54,089 1	37 4	100,966 7 4
	Beans	-	-	-	6,612 1	46 7	15,400 14 9
	Indian Corn	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Malt	-	-	-	24,072 3	47 8	57,372 9 10
	Oats	-	-	-	39,229 2	26 6	51,978 15 1
	Pease	-	-	-	7,527 -	50 -	18,817 10 -
	Rye	-	-	-	18,417 3	44 6	40,978 13 2
	Wheat	-	-	-	32,695 4	73 11	120,837 2 4
	TOTAL of Corn and Grain	-	-	-	182,642 6	-	406,351 12 6
	Barley Meal	-	-	-	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	-	-
	Bean Meal	-	-	-	99 2 -	10 8	53 1 4
	Indian Meal	-	-	-	55 - -	13 4	36 13 4
	Oat Meal	-	-	-	12,124 - 18	26 5	16,013 19 10
	Pea Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Rye Meal	-	-	-	2,132 - 21	12 8	1,350 7 9
	Wheat Meal and Flour	-	-	-	275,737 - 8	21 1	290,672 16 7
	TOTAL of Meal and Flour	-	-	-	290,147 3 19	-	308,126 18 10
Aggregate Value of Corn, &c. Exported from Great Britain		-	-	-	-	-	714,478 11 4
SPECIES OF GRAIN, &c.		YEAR 1815.			YEAR 1816.		
		Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.
		Quarters. bus.	S. d.	£. s. d.	Quarters. bus.	S. d.	£. s. d.
Exported from Great Britain to all Parts of the World.	Barley	8,094 4	30 3	12,242 18 7	32,606 3	33 5	54,479 16 4
	Beans	7,222 2	36 1	13,030 2 10	8,739 2	38 4	16,750 4 7
	Indian Corn	70 -	30 3	105 17 6	1 6	33 5	2 18 5
	Malt	7,388 1	48 6	17,916 4 -	9,929 7	50 3	24,948 16 1
	Oats	22,297 4	23 10	26,571 3 9	25,044 5	23 6	29,427 8 8
	Pease	4,260 5	38 10	8,272 14 3	4,805 6	38 4	9,211 - 5
	Rye	16,815 4	37 10	31,808 7 6	8,093 5	43 2	17,468 14 10
	Wheat	186,554 4	64 4	600,083 12 10	87,059 4	75 10	330,100 12 1
	TOTAL of Corn and Grain	252,703 -	-	710,031 1 3	176,280 6	-	482,389 11 5
	Barley Meal	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	-	-	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	-	-
	Bean Meal	369 - 7	8 8	159 18 6	3,717 - -	9 7	1,781 1 3
	Indian Meal	171 1 8	10 4	88 10 4	262 2 -	10 11	143 5 8
	Oat Meal	11,487 3 24	24 -	13,785 11 1	11,669 1 24	22 8	13,225 7 10
	Pea Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Rye Meal	4,077 2 17	10 10	2,208 14 6	-	-	-
	Wheat Meal and Flour	144,875 1 20	18 5	133,406 2 6	120,930 3 19	21 8	131,008 9 10
	TOTAL of Meal and Flour	160,981 1 20	-	149,648 16 11	136,579 3 15	-	146,158 4 7
Aggregate Value of Corn, &c. Exported from Great Britain		-	-	859,679 18 2	-	-	628,547 16 -

Appendix, N^o 12.—An Account of the quantity of Corn and Grain, &c.—continued.

SPECIES OF GRAIN, &c.		YEAR 1817.			YEAR 1818.		
		Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.
		Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.	Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.
Exported from Great Britain to all Parts of the World.	Barley	63,869	48 3	154,083 19 3	18,585 7	53 6	49,717 4 3
	Beans	11,643 7	52 —	30,274 1 6	3,002 —	63 1	9,468 16 2
	Indian Corn	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Malt	6,010 5	78 —	23,441 8 9	15,126 7	74 10	56,599 14 5
	Oats	46,698 5	32 1	74,912 7 6	21,306 6	32 11	35,067 7 2
	Pease	7,016 6	51 6	18,038 17 10	3,618 7	59 11	10,841 10 10
	Rye	40,602 1	56 6	114,701 — 1	35 3	54 10	96 19 8
	Wheat	203,393 7	94 9	963,578 9 7	21,173 5	84 1	89,017 8 11
	TOTAL of Corn and Grain	379,234 7	—	1,379,030 4 6	82,849 3	—	250,809 1 5
		Cwts. qrs. lbs.			Cwts. qrs. lbs.		
	Barley Meal	995 — 4	13 9	684 1 9	544 — 16	15 3	414 18 2
	Bean Meal	233 2 —	14 10	173 3 7	415 — —	18 —	373 10 —
	Indian Meal	51 — —	13 9	35 1 3	—	—	—
	Oat Meal	39,816 2 20	31 5	62,545 7 3	18,838 2 8	28 10	27,158 18 9
	Pea Meal	— — —	—	— — —	6 2 —	17 1	5 11 —
	Rye Meal	23,963 1 4	16 2	19,370 6 5	125 — —	15 8	97 18 4
	Wheat Meal and Flour	399,456 3 10	27 1	540,931 2 8	131,232 3 10	24 —	157,479 8 2
	TOTAL of Meal and Flour	464,516 1 10	—	623,739 2 11	151,162 — 6	—	185,530 4 5
	Aggregate Value of Corn, &c. Exported from Great Britain	— — —	—	2,002,769 7 5	— — —	—	436,339 5 10
SPECIES OF GRAIN, &c.		YEAR 1819.			YEAR 1820.		
		Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.	Quantities Exported.	Average Prices in England and Wales.	Value as calculated at such Prices.
		Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.	Quarters. bus.	s. d.	£. s. d.
Exported from Great Britain to all Parts of the World.	Barley	7,341 2	46 8	17,129 11 8	9,966 6	33 10	16,860 8 4
	Beans	4,636 4	55 4	12,827 13 —	5,238 5	43 6	11,394 — 2
	Indian Corn	3,822 —	46 8	8,918 — —	2,321 1	33 10	3,926 11 5
	Malt	7,577 1	64 6	24,436 4 7	2,792 4	68 —	9,494 10 —
	Oats	23,398 1	29 4	34,317 5 —	20,439 6	24 4	24,868 7 3
	Pease	4,273 6	56 —	11,966 10 —	4,491 3	44 11	10,086 17 7
	Rye	466 6	48 7	1,133 16 3	2,479 7	40 10	5,063 1 7
	Wheat	7,715 3	73 —	28,161 2 4	39,060 6	65 7	128,086 14 2
	TOTAL of Corn and Grain	59,230 7	—	138,890 2 10	86,790 6	—	209,780 10 6
		Cwts. qrs. lbs.			Cwts. qrs. lbs.		
	Barley Meal	189 1 12	13 4	126 4 9	—	—	—
	Bean Meal	545 2 —	15 10	431 17 1	—	—	—
	Indian Meal	1,955 — 10	13 4	1,303 7 10	25 — 24	9 8	12 3 9
	Oat Meal	24,258 2 8	25 3	30,626 8 11	12,854 3 20	20 5	13,122 14 9
	Pea Meal	— — —	—	— — —	—	—	—
	Rye Meal	1,445 — 22	13 11	1,005 12 3	30 — —	11 8	17 10 —
	Wheat Meal and Flour	129,408 2 6	20 10	134,800 11 6	194,585 1 18	18 9	182,423 16 6
	TOTAL of Meal and Flour	157,802 1 2	—	168,294 2 4	207,495 2 6	—	195,576 5 —
	Aggregate Value of Corn, &c. Exported from Great Britain	— — —	—	307,184 5 2	— — —	—	405,356 15 6

Custom House, London, }
23d March 1821. }

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 13

AN ACCOUNT of the quantity of Corn and Grain of all sorts, Meal, Flour and Rice, exported from Ireland, from
and the Total Export of each Year in

COUNTRIES TO WHICH EXPORTED.	QUANTITIES EXPORTED					
	Barley.	Beans.	Groat Meal.	Malt.	Meslin.	Oats.
1813:	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	109,691	7,296	- - -	- - -	139	1,180,590
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	1,636	- - -	- - -	50	- - -	3,524
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	228,389	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	63,992
British Colonies in North America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
British West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	1	- - -	- - -	4,605
Foreign West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	995
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100
TOTALS - - - -	339,716	7,296	1	50	139	1,253,806
1814:						
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	17,798	10,389	- - -	- - -	- - -	910,250
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	150	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,314
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	82,798	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	80,428
British Colonies in North America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	45
British West Indies - - - -	10	52	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,792
Foreign West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	820
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	100,756	10,441	- - -	- - -	- - -	997,649
1815:						
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	47,698	11,479	- - -	- - -	- - -	932,942
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	298
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	94,941	504	- - -	- - -	- - -	107
British Colonies in North America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	296
British West Indies - - - -	10	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,017
Foreign West Indies - - - -	2	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	92
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	142,651	11,983	- - -	- - -	- - -	935,752
1816:						
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	110,491	8,191	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,096,137
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	3,424	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,192
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	72,803	30	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,942
British Colonies in North America - - - -	185	- - -	- - -	5,857	- - -	2,272
British West Indies - - - -	6	20	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,115
Foreign West Indies - - - -	6	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	47
United States of America - - - -	20	- - -	- - -	3,605	- - -	24
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	186,935	8,241	- - -	9,462	- - -	1,106,729

Appendix, N° 13.

1813 to 1820, both inclusive; distinguishing the quantity of each species; the Price of the Year being the real Value, Value, and the Countries to which exported.

QUANTITIES EXPORTED.						TOTAL QUANTITIES EXPORTED.			TOTAL EXPORT		
Oatmeal.	Peas.	Rye.	Wheat.	Wheat Flour.	Wheat Meal.	Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.	IN VALUE.		
Cwts.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£.	s.	d.
101,426	1,594	675	278,906	159,641	2	1,578,891	261,069	131	2,437,450	10	7
500	-	-	2,364	1,509	-	7,574	2,009	-	14,694	17	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
40	-	27	46,537	41,082	-	338,945	41,122	-	543,440	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
5,595	-	-	-	19,675	-	-	25,270	-	32,244	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
680	-	-	-	41,907	-	4,605	42,588	-	66,165	17	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
200	-	-	-	3,856	-	995	4,056	-	6,776	11	— $\frac{1}{2}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
105	-	-	-	222	-	100	327	-	495	19	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
108,546	1,594	702	327,807	267,892	2	1,931,110	376,441	131	3,101,268	17	— $\frac{1}{4}$
42,660	2,253	7	322,333	132,539	2	1,263,030	175,201	5,758	1,425,679	11	5
140	-	-	-	212	-	2,464	352	-	2,092	15	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
700	-	-	28,989	25,152	-	192,215	25,852	370	213,366	13	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
1,706	41	-	-	41,334	-	86	43,040	-	46,677	15	— $\frac{3}{4}$
-	-	-	-	42,941	-	3,854	42,941	-	49,684	16	1
120	-	-	-	9,115	-	820	9,235	-	10,636	15	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
-	-	-	-	175	-	-	175	-	191	8	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
42	-	-	-	150	-	-	192	54	333	9	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
45,368	2,294	7	351,322	251,618	2	1,462,469	296,988	6,182	1,748,663	5	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
42,474	2,174	434	247,223	106,120	127	1,241,950	148,721	429	1,187,832	10	9
160	-	-	20	-	-	318	100	-	327	—	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1,384	-	-	91,558	4,917	-	187,110	6,301	-	222,227	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
752	-	-	-	3,780	-	296	4,532	-	4,305	13	9
3	-	-	-	2,028	-	2,027	2,031	-	3,250	9	— $\frac{1}{2}$
30	-	-	-	262	-	94	292	-	331	7	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
44,803	2,174	434	338,801	117,107	127	1,431,795	162,037	429	1,418,274	12	9
37,225	2,480	69	156,626	82,562	-	1,373,994	119,787	1,372	1,270,857	15	4
172	-	-	-	40	-	4,616	212	-	3,474	8	4
1,025	-	18	40,393	1,825	-	115,186	2,850	784	146,515	19	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
887	-	-	-	4,259	-	8,314	5,146	60	16,983	12	11
22	1	-	-	5,408	-	5,142	5,430	-	9,949	14	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
-	-	-	-	-	-	53	-	-	35	1	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
16	-	-	-	-	-	3,649	16	-	5,809	17	4
-	-	-	-	35	-	-	35	-	42	11	8
39,347	2,481	87	197,019	94,129	-	1,510,954	133,476	2,216	1,453,669	1	9 $\frac{3}{4}$

Appendix N° 13.—An Account of the quantity of Corn and Grain, &c.—*continued*.

COUNTRIES TO WHICH EXPORTED.	QUANTITIES EXPORTED					
	Barley.	Beans.	Groat Meal.	Malt.	Meslin.	Oats.
1817:	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	47,397	2,525	- - -	- - -	- - -	991,645
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	1,079	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	12
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	18,084	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	45
British Colonies in North America - -	606	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,212
British West Indies - - - -	17	220	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,603
Foreign West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4
Other parts - - - -	4	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	67,187	2,745	- - -	- - -	- - -	998,521
1818:						
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	44,086	6,534	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,638,970
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	304	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	278
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	2,548	- - -	- - -	4	- - -	705
British Colonies in North America - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	751
British West Indies - - - -	13	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,875
Foreign West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	46,951	6,534	- - -	4	- - -	1,643,580
1819:						
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	36,579	7,252	- - -	- - -	108	1,243,389
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	50	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	495
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	5	- - -	- - -	4	- - -	140
British Colonies in North America - -	30	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,988
British West Indies - - - -	106	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4,036
Foreign West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,084
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	36,770	7,252	- - -	4	108	1,252,132
1820:						
Great Britain and Man Isle - - - -	164,946 $\frac{1}{2}$	12,437	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,534,821
Guernsey and Jersey - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Foreign Countries in Europe - - - -	14	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2
British Colonies in North America - -	5	- - -	- - -	200	- - -	253
British West Indies - - - -	69	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5,817 $\frac{1}{2}$
Foreign West Indies - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
United States of America - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
Other parts - - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
TOTALS - - - -	165,034 $\frac{1}{2}$	12,437	- - -	200	- - -	1,540,893 $\frac{1}{2}$

Note.—For prices, see Return signed John Moore, Register of Corn Returns.

Appendix, N^o 13.—Account of the quantity of Corn and Grain, &c.—continued.

QUANTITIES EXPORTED.						TOTAL QUANTITIES EXPORTED.			TOTAL EXPORT IN VALUE.		
Oatmeal.	Peas.	Rye.	Wheat.	Wheat Flour.	Wheat Meal.	Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.	Rice.	£.	s.	d.
Cwts.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Barrels.	Cwts.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.			
28,452 $\frac{3}{4}$	60	1	84,701	32,608 $\frac{1}{4}$	125	1,126,329	61,186	799 2 —	986,004	17	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
127 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	94	50	—	1,185	177 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1,276	14	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
45	—	—	3,678	773	—	21,807	818	—	24,163	7	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
2,525 $\frac{1}{4}$	20	—	300	921	—	2,138	3,446 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	5,605	16	11
18	—	—	—	—	—	5,840	18	—	4,103	13	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	5	1	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
2	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	4	15	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
31,173 $\frac{1}{2}$	80	1	88,773	34,352 $\frac{1}{4}$	125	1,157,307	65,650 $\frac{1}{4}$	799 2 —	1,021,164	7	4
132,729 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	6	160,596	42,579 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	1,850,192	175,317 $\frac{1}{4}$	479 2 —	2,109,406	16	1
90	—	—	—	350	—	582	440	—	1,506	1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1,548 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	2,550	430	—	5,807	1,978 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	11,929	16	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
2,793 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	80	1,155 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	831	3,949	46 3 14	6,150	8	5
45 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	6,620	—	2,888	6,665 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	17,917	—	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	4	10	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
137,210 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	6	163,226	51,135 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	1,860,301	188,354	526 1 14	2,146,914	13	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
50,089 $\frac{1}{4}$	75	80	224,847	96,566 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	1,512,330	146,655 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2 —	1,644,684	9	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
50	—	—	—	150	—	545	200	—	670	8	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
919 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	789 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	149	1,709 $\frac{1}{4}$	32 — 14	1,915	3	— $\frac{3}{4}$
2,055 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	3	1,667	—	3,021	3,722 $\frac{1}{2}$	30 —	6,200	4	10
67	—	—	—	7,270 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	4,142	7,337 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	11,842	18	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79 1 7	214	2	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
100 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	1,084	102 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	951	17	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	—	—	—	25	—	—	45	—	46	3	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
53,301 $\frac{3}{4}$	75	80	224,850	106,470 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	1,521,271	159,772	142 3 21	1,666,525	8	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
44,764 $\frac{3}{4}$	2,659	278	649,465 $\frac{1}{2}$	194,463 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2,364,607	239 228	227 — —	1,517,704	4	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91 1 14	182	15	—
267	—	—	—	172	—	16	439	50 3 —	475	13	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1,322 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	248	—	460 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,570 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	1,532	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
254 $\frac{3}{4}$	2	—	—	1,516	—	5,888 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,770 $\frac{3}{4}$	828 3 14	6,507	10	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	1	—	—	—	—	1	22	—	16	7	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46,631 $\frac{1}{4}$	2,664 $\frac{1}{2}$	278	649,465 $\frac{1}{2}$	196,399 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2,370,973	243,030 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,198 — —	1,526,418	14	4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Custom House, Dublin,
11th April 1821.

W^m Marrable,
Inspector Gen^l of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 14

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Rice imported into and exported from Great Britain,
Total Import and Export

YEARS.						QUANTITIES IMPORTED INTO GREAT BRITAIN.								
						East India RICE.			RICE, not East India.			TOTAL.		
						Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1814	-	-	-	-	-	142,813	3	6	26,698	-	3	169,511	3	9
1815	-	-	-	-	-	21,290	3	12	81,876	1	19	103,167	1	3
1816	-	-	-	-	-	2,114	3	-	86,537	3	17	88,652	2	17
1817	-	-	-	-	-	88,463	1	1	152,295	3	1	240,759	-	2
1818	-	-	-	-	-	323,282	2	2	100,499	3	3	423,782	1	5
1819	-	-	-	-	-	374,954	-	-	96,217	2	2	471,171	2	2
1820	-	-	-	-	-	195,407	2	13	87,570	2	12	282,978	-	25

YEARS.						QUANTITIES EXPORTED FROM GREAT BRITAIN.								
						East India RICE.			RICE, not East India.			TOTAL.		
						Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1814	-	-	-	-	-	56,920	2	4	17,768	2	6	74,689	-	10
1815	-	-	-	-	-	29,347	3	2	30,252	-	14	59,599	3	16
1816	-	-	-	-	-	2,370	3	15	53,192	2	3	55,563	1	18
1817	-	-	-	-	-	74,109	3	18	81,181	1	23	155,291	1	13
1818	-	-	-	-	-	103,948	-	21	40,446	2	23	144,394	3	16
1819	-	-	-	-	-	81,092	3	3	72,655	3	5	153,748	2	8
1820	-	-	-	-	-	64,250	3	22	36,124	1	25	100,375	1	19

Note.—The records of the year 1813 were destroyed by fire.

Appendix, N° 14.

from 1813 to 1820, both inclusive; the Price of the Year being the real Value, and the of each Year in Value.

AVERAGE PRICES THEREOF IN EACH YEAR.		VALUE AS CALCULATED AT SUCH PRICES.		
East India RICE.	RICE not East India.	East India RICE.	RICE, not East India.	TOTAL.
S. d.	S. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
24/5	47/.	174,351 17 —	62,740 7 3	237,092 4 3
17/.	33/.	18,097 4 7	135,096 1 10	153,193 6 5
15/8	27/.	1,656 11 1	116,826 3 3	118,482 14 4
23/8	42/.	104,681 10 5	319,821 1 10	424,502 12 3
20/10	40/9	336,752 12 5	204,768 5 7	541,520 18 —
12/5	28/.	232,783 18 10	134,704 10 6	367,488 9 4
10/8	22/6	104,217 8 3	98,516 18 8	202,734 6 11

AVERAGE PRICES THEREOF IN EACH YEAR.		VALUE AS CALCULATED AT SUCH PRICES.		
East India RICE.	RICE, not East India.	East India RICE.	RICE, not East India.	TOTAL.
S. d.	S. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
24/5	47/.	69,490 9 9	41,756 2 —	111,246 11 9
17/.	33/.	24,945 12 —	49,916 — 1	74,861 12 1
15/8	27/.	1,857 3 10	71,809 18 3	73,667 2 1
23/8	42/.	87,696 14 6	170,481 1 1	258,177 15 7
20/10	40/9	108,279 7 3	82,410 3 2	190,689 10 5
12/5	28/.	50,345 1 11	101,718 2 3	152,063 4 2
10/8	22/6	34,267 3 4	40,640 — 8	74,907 4 —

Custom House, London,
24th March 1821.

William Irving,
Inspector General of Imports & Exports.

Appendix, N° 15.

AN ACCOUNT of the quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, Imported into Great Britain from Foreign Countries,
different kinds of Grain, Meal and Flour;

COUNTRIES From which Imported.		CORN and GRAIN, VIZ.							
		Barley.	Beans.	Indian Corn.	Oats.	Pease.	Rye.	Wheat.	
Year ending } 1814:	5 January }	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.
Russia - - - -	-	128 -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6 -	6,628 -	58,025 -	-
Sweden - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,508 -	1,039 -	997 -	66,085 -	-
Denmark - - - -	-	9,750 -	382 -	- - -	27,013 -	48 -	1,864 -	19,814 -	-
Prussia - - - -	-	2,444 -	- - -	- - -	770 -	5,034 -	9,713 -	115,946 -	-
Germany - - - -	-	3,657 -	568 -	- - -	26,159 -	1,388 -	14,019 -	79,279 -	-
Holland - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
Flanders - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
France - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
United States of America -	-	- - -	- - -	24 -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
British Provinces in North } America - - - - }	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
Other Parts - - - -	-	3,718 -	- - -	311 -	2,990 -	11 -	1,184 -	1,697 -	-
TOTAL from Foreign } Countries - - - - }	-	19,697 -	950 -	335 -	60,440 -	7,526 -	34,405 -	340,846 -	-
Ireland and the Isle of Man -	-	63,560 -	4,455 -	- - -	645,247 -	77 -	420 -	171,334 -	-
TOTAL quantities Im- } ported into G ^t Britain }	-	83,257 -	5,405 -	335 -	705,687 -	7,603 -	34,825 -	512,180 -	-
Year ending } 1815:									
Russia - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	990 -	- - -	337 1	8,432 2	-
Sweden - - - -	-	306 -	- - -	- - -	386 3	343 6	- - -	29,890 6	-
Denmark - - - -	-	3,174 1	827 5	- - -	8,645 6	14 1	1,234 1	4,461 4	-
Prussia - - - -	-	2,689 6	7,101 7	- - -	38,698 4	2,952 2	1,692 3	133,106 1	-
Germany - - - -	-	2,684 2	8,859 1	- - -	26,157 5	1,942 5	684 5	76,437 1	-
Holland - - - -	-	7,163 2	17,098 -	- - -	142,946 1	3,576 -	109 1	121,645 3	-
Flanders - - - -	-	338 1	2,159 3	- - -	2,152 1	279 4	- - -	122,271 4	-
France - - - -	-	11,717 3	1,601 -	- - -	27,962 -	82 5	712 1	103,655 5	-
Portugal, &c. - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 1	- - -	- - -	-
Spain, &c. - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,206 6	3 6	- - -	- 4	-
Italy - - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 -	-
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey -	-	10 -	- - -	- - -	10 -	- 4	- - -	698 3	-
Africa - - - -	-	- 1	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 1	-
British Provinces in North } America - - - - }	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
British West Indies - - -	-	- - -	- - -	- 2	- - -	- 3	- - -	- - -	-
United States of America -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	-
Foreign Colonies on Con- } tinent of America - - }	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 6	-
Prize Corn - - - -	-	604 3	7 3	- 6	1 -	110 2	1,270 7	- - -	-
TOTAL from Foreign } Countries - - - - }	-	28,687 3	37,654 3	1 -	250,156 2	9,305 7	6,040 3	600,601 -	-
Ireland (Foreign Produce) -	-	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	330 4	-
D ^o (Irish Produce) - - -	-	16,779 2	5,730 7	- - -	534,099 4	459 4	4 3	184,431 7	-
Isle of Man - - - -	-	565 -	- - -	- - -	983 1	76 -	- - -	2,766 1	-
TOTAL quantities Im- } ported into G ^t Britain }	-	46,031 5	43,385 2	1 -	785,238 7	9,841 3	6,044 6	788,129 4	-

Appendix, N° 15.

from the 5th January 1813 to the 5th January 1821; distinguishing the Places from whence imported, and the and also distinguishing each Year.

MEAL and FLOUR, VIZ.					TOTAL OF ALL SORTS IMPORTED.	
Barley Meal.	Indian Meal.	Oat Meal.	Rye Meal.	Wheat Meal and Flour.	Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.
Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Qrs. bus.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
- - -	- - -	- - -	561 - -	11 - -	64,787 -	572 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	71,629 -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5 - -	58,871 -	5 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	133,907 -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	302 - -	125,070 -	302 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
- - -	885 - -	- - -	- - -	2,837 - -	24 - -	3,722 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3 - -	- - -	3 - -
39 - -	- - -	25 - -	252 - -	342 - -	9,911 -	658 - -
39 - -	885 - -	25 - -	813 - -	3,500 - -	464,199 -	5,262 - -
- - -	- - -	72,681 - -	- - -	160,369 - -	885,093 -	233,050 - -
39 - -	885 - -	72,706 - -	813 - -	163,869 - -	1,349,292 -	238,312 - -
- - -	- - -	1 1 -	- - -	- - -	9,759 3	1 1 -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	30,926 7	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	18,357 2	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	186,240 7	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	331 2 6	116,765 3	331 2 6
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100 - -	292,537 7	100 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	846 - 22	127,200 5	846 - 22
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	79,286 2 25	145,730 6	79,286 2 25
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 1	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,211 -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 3 20	1 -	- 3 20
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,050 - 4	718 7	1,050 - 4
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 2 25	- 2	- 2 25
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9 - -	- - -	9 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 - 22	- 5	1 - 22
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5 1 -	- - -	5 1 -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	32 3 6	- 6	32 3 6
- - -	1 - -	- - -	- - -	78 1 20	1,994 5	79 1 20
- - -	1 - -	1 1 -	- - -	81,742 3 10	932,446 2	81,745 - 10
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	42 3 6	330 4	42 3 6
- - -	- - -	47,002 3 6	- - -	143,662 1 6	741,505 3	190,665 - 12
- - -	- - -	16 3 26	- - -	81 3 27	4,390 2	98 3 25
- - -	1 - -	47,021 - 4	- - -	225,529 3 21	1,678,672 3	272,551 3 25

(continued.)

Appendix, No. 15, *continued*.—Account of the Quantities of Grain Meal and Flour - - -

COUNTRIES From which Imported.		CORN and GRAIN, VIZ.						
		Barley.	Beans.	Indian Corn.	Oats.	Pease.	Rye.	Wheat.
Year ending } 1816: 5 January }		Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.
Russia - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	4 1	-	1,438 7
Sweden - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	607 4
Norway - - - -	-	10 1	-	-	- 4	-	7 6	-
Denmark - - - -	-	1,124 4	-	-	7,915 -	-	-	211 2
Prussia - - - -	-	-	597 -	-	279 4	503 5	-	18,046 4
Germany - - - -	-	85 6	7,412 7	-	20,077 5	66 4	-	7,635 -
Holland - - - -	-	191 5	661 1	-	67,360 -	280 7	-	14,326 4
Flanders - - - -	-	-	1,626 5	-	11,715 1	1 5	-	38,799 5
France - - - -	-	441 1	1,645 2	-	12,920 3	327 1	291 5	52,163 5
Portugal, &c. - -	-	-	-	1 -	-	-	-	-
Spain, &c. - - -	-	-	-	-	-	2 -	-	-
Italy - - - -	-	-	- 1	-	-	-	-	- 1
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey -	-	25 -	-	-	44 -	-	-	1,232 4
Africa - - - -	-	-	-	- 5	-	-	-	-
British Provinces in North America - - - }	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
British West Indies - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign West Indies - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States of America -	-	-	-	1 6	-	-	-	-
Prize Corn - - -	-	180 5	-	-	2 -	2 7	195 -	- 4
TOTAL from Foreign Countries - - }	-	2,058 6	11,943 -	3 3	120,314 1	1,187 -	494 3	134,462 -
Ireland (foreign produce) -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D ^o (Irish produce) - - -	-	27,108 2	6,370 7	-	576,544 7	425 4	207 1	159,188 3
Isle of Man - - -	-	411 2	49 -	-	391 6	11 3	6 -	2,476 2
TOTAL quantities Imported into G ^t Britain }	-	29,578 2	18,362 7	3 3	697,250 6	1,623 7	707 4	296,126 5
Year ending } 1817: 5 January }								
Russia - - - -	-	101 3	-	-	-	-	4,796 2	19,190 2
Sweden - - - -	-	388 -	-	-	-	-	-	271 6
Denmark - - - -	-	3,126 7	-	-	5,720 7	2 4	25 -	5,999 -
Prussia - - - -	-	1,925 1	-	-	1,173 2	649 6	4,663 3	86,379 7
Germany - - - -	-	2,766 5	-	-	17,756 1	-	3,315 6	30,318 1
Holland - - - -	-	2,410 5	24 4	-	47,143 7	227 -	2,272 -	41,940 6
Flanders - - - -	-	3,323 1	-	-	3,483 3	-	2 2	17,220 6
France - - - -	-	823 -	-	-	-	-	-	366 5
Spain, &c. - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1 -	-	-
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	616 3
British Provinces in North America - - - }	-	-	-	- 2	-	-	-	-
United States of America -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 2
TOTAL from Foreign Countries - - }	-	14,864 6	24 4	- 2	75,277 4	879 3	15,074 2	202,304 6
Ireland (foreign produce) -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D ^o (Irish produce) - - -	-	62,252 7	5,983 5	-	662,549 3	238 7	43 3	98,204 4
Isle of Man - - -	-	1,374 6	91 4	-	687 6	43 2	-	1,201 7
TOTAL quantities Imported into G ^t Britain }	-	78,492 3	6,099 5	- 2	738,514 5	1,161 4	15,117 5	301,711 1

imported into Great Britain, in the Years ending 5th January 1816 and 1817.

MEAL and FLOUR, VIZ.					TOTAL OF ALL SORTS IMPORTED.	
Barley Meal.	Indian Meal.	Oat Meal.	Rye Meal.	Wheat Meal and Flour.	Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.
Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Qrs. bus.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 3 13	1,443 -	1 3 13
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	607 4	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	18 3	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,250 6	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	19,426 5	- - -
- - -	- - -	1 - 14	- - -	- - -	35,277 6	1 - 14
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	732 - 6	82,820 1	732 - 6
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,121 3 15	52,143 -	2,121 3 15
- - -	- - -	- - -	4,077 2 17	35,629 - 22	67,789 1	39,706 3 11
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 2	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	11 2 12	- 2	11 2 12
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4,683 1 12	1,301 4	4,683 1 12
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 5	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	87 2 6	- - -	87 2 6
- - -	- 1 -	- - -	- - -	10 3 27	- - -	11 - 27
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	42 - 8	- - -	42 - 8
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	159,542 2 25	1 6	159,542 2 25
- - -	- - -	252 2 -	80 1 1	93 - 1	381 -	425 3 2
- - -	- 1 -	253 2 14	4,157 3 18	202,956 1 7	270,462 5	207,368 - 11
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
- - -	- - -	32,988 - 4	- - -	106,242 3 18	769,845 -	139,230 3 22
- - -	- - -	7 1 26	- - -	20 - -	3,345 5	27 1 26
- - -	- 1 -	33,249 - 16	4,157 3 18	309,219 - 25	1,043,653 2	346,626 2 3
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	388 1 26	24,087 7	388 1 26
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	659 6	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	14,874 2	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	94,791 -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	54,156 5	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	94,018 6	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	24,029 4	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,189 5	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 1	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	102 - 16	616 3	102 - 16
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9 3 18	- 2	9 3 18
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	25,225 2 26	1 2	25,225 2 26
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	25,726 1 2	308,425 3	25,726 1 2
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -
5 - -	- - -	33,259 - 21	- - -	81,992 3 23	829,272 5	115,257 - 16
- - -	- - -	44 - -	- - -	11 1 20	3,399 1	55 1 20
5 - -	- - -	33,303 - 21	- - -	107,730 2 17	1,141,097 1	141,038 3 10

Appendix N^o 15, continued.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, - - -

COUNTRIES		CORN AND GRAIN, VIZ.													
		Barley.		Beans.		Indian Corn.		Oats.		Pease.		Rye.		Wheat.	
From which Imported.															
Year ending } 1818: 5 January }		Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.
Russia - - - -	-	17,227	6	-	-	-	-	119,927	7	4	-	69,317	7	197,924	2
Sweden - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	337	-	327	6
Norway - - - -	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	1
Denmark - - - -	-	43,115	3	-	-	-	-	82,968	4	561	3	3,703	2	18,663	1
Prussia - - - -	-	44,762	4	-	-	-	-	58,796	5	10,935	7	36,337	3	264,111	7
Germany - - - -	-	19,991	4	2,606	4	-	-	107,634	5	360	6	19,159	3	103,629	7
Holland - - - -	-	4,530	-	917	5	-	-	104,435	6	495	4	4,979	4	52,773	3
Flanders - - - -	-	1,870	2	14	-	-	-	3,233	1	48	2	573	3	16,984	7
France - - - -	-	373	-	21	-	-	-	502	-	-	-	-	-	1,358	-
Portugal, &c. -	-	1,115	4	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	40	4	32	5
Spain, &c. - - -	-	315	6	-	-	-	-	402	2	38	3	-	-	2,654	2
Gibraltar - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	982	2
Italy - - - -	-	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,793	4
Malta - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,568	7
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey -	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	75	-	-	-	-	-	136	-
The East Indies -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	3	-	-	20	-
Cape of Good Hope -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,889	5
British Provinces in North America - - - }	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	679	3	-	-	14,636	1
British West Indies -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States of America -	-	28	-	-	-	-	4	31	2	-	-	69	-	15,836	4
Buenos Ayres - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,086	7
The Brazils - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL from Foreign Countries - - }	-	133,432	4	3,559	1	2	3	478,007	-	13,146	7	134,517	2	716,514	7
Ireland (Foreign produce) -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,288	2
D ^o (Irish produce) -	-	26,740	3	2,274	4	-	-	594,437	5	12	-	-	-	50,842	-
Isle of Man - - -	-	1,241	6	16	4	-	-	909	1	3	-	-	-	1,786	6
TOTAL Quantities imported into G ^t Britain }	-	161,414	5	5,850	1	2	3	1,073,353	6	13,161	7	134,517	2	770,431	7
Year ending } 1819: 5 January }															
Russia - - - -	-	74,281	6	-	-	-	-	308,502	4	2,306	-	49,073	3	242,311	1
Sweden - - - -	-	507	4	-	-	-	-	506	-	170	-	-	-	-	-
Norway - - - -	-	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,021	-
Denmark - - - -	-	143,115	5	2,492	2	-	-	125,602	1	6,036	1	1,169	3	63,786	2
Prussia - - - -	-	166,135	4	2,805	7	-	-	121,878	1	29,973	1	15,032	4	493,821	1
Germany - - - -	-	149,389	6	24,876	7	-	-	137,222	4	7,417	5	4,775	1	248,180	7
Holland - - - -	-	96,939	-	26,335	3	-	-	219,318	6	9,287	5	2,236	1	97,631	5
Flanders - - - -	-	62,444	5	14,191	6	-	-	72,516	3	3,897	1	1,928	-	155,040	1
France - - - -	-	-	-	2,579	6	-	-	1,247	-	-	-	-	-	696	5
Portugal, &c. -	-	-	-	395	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain, &c. - - -	-	141	-	411	7	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	2,404	1
Gibraltar - - -	-	-	-	2,227	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,164	4
Italy - - - -	-	944	-	35,191	6	56	2	-	-	5	-	2	3	38,733	7
Malta - - - -	-	-	-	8,028	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,249	6
Turkey - - - -	-	783	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey -	-	157	4	6	5	-	-	-	-	141	-	-	-	301	6
The East Indies -	-	4	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	3	6
Cape of Good Hope -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	126	6
British Provinces in North America - - - }	-	165	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,315	3	-	-	47,242	7
United States of America -	-	362	3	-	-	1,354	7	-	-	434	1	3,864	-	16,356	7
TOTAL from Foreign Countries - - }	-	695,621	5	115,944	1	1,411	3	986,793	3	61,996	4	78,080	7	1,410,073	-
Ireland (Foreign produce) -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	993	-
D ^o (Irish produce) -	-	25,334	4	4,767	5	-	-	1,001,247	7	10	-	4	1	95,677	-
Isle of Man - - -	-	1,833	2	-	-	-	-	2,869	3	-	-	-	-	3,143	4
TOTAL Quantities Imported into G ^t Britain }	-	722,789	3	120,711	6	1,411	3	1,990,910	5	62,006	4	78,085	-	1,509,886	4

imported into Great Britain, in the Years ending 5th January 1818 and 1819.

MEAL and FLOUR, VIZ.					TOTAL OF ALL SORTS IMPORTED.	
Barley Meal.	Indian Meal.	Oat Meal.	Rye Meal.	Wheat, Meal and Flour.	Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.
Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Qrs. bus.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
- - -	- - -	- - -	17 3 10	5,338 - 17	404,401 6	5,355 3 27
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	121 3 3	664 6	121 3 3
1,233 3 -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	106 -	1,233 3 -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	149,011 5	- - -
- - -	- - -	1 11	- - -	12 1 8	414,944 2	12 2 19
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	70 - 11	253,382 5	70 - 11
- - -	- - -	1 22	- - -	448 3 18	168,131 6	449 1 12
- - -	- - -	- - -	596 2 8	- - -	22,723 7	596 2 8
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,519 - 17	2,254 -	3,519 - 17
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,189 7	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	674 - 6	3,410 5	674 - 6
- - -	528 2 12	- - -	- - -	9,605 3 4	982 2	10,134 1 16
- - -	1 2 6	- - -	- - -	- 3 21	21,869 4	2 1 27
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,568 7	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	15 - -	237 -	15 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	43 3	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,889 5	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	36,964 1 23	15,316 -	36,964 1 23
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	924 - 27	- 1	924 - 27
- - -	2 - 3	- - -	18,167 - 5	1,034,597 3 9	15,965 2	1,052,766 3 17
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,086 7	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,538 - 25	- -	1,538 - 25
1,233 3 -	532 - 21	- 3 5	18,781 1 23	1,093,830 3 21	1,479,180 -	1,114,379 - 14
- - -	- - -	- - -	2,323 - -	7,894 3 21	1,288 2	10,217 3 21
88 - -	- - -	26,211 - 21	- - -	16,238 1 4	674,306 4	42,537 1 25
40 - -	- - -	121 2 12	- - -	16 - -	3,957 1	177 2 12
1,361 3 -	532 - 21	26,333 2 10	21,104 1 23	1,117,980 - 18	2,158,731 7	1,167,312 - 16
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,111 - 14	676,474 6	1,111 - 14
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,183 4	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,271 -	- - -
3 3 -	- - -	- - -	- - -	37 1 6	342,201 6	41 - 6
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	829,646 2	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	571,862 6	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	451,748 4	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	377 - -	310,018 -	377 - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 - 11	4,523 3	1 - 11
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	395 4	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,957 3	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	773 2 26	3,392 3	773 2 26
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	26 - 12	71,333 2	26 - 12
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	9,278 -	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	783 4	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	606 7	- - -
- - -	- - -	2 2 23	- - -	146 - 3	21 4	148 2 26
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	126 6	- - -
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	24,129 3 24	49,723 5	24,129 3 24
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	578,214 3 10	22,372 2	578,214 3 10
3 3 -	- - -	2 2 23	- - -	604,817 - 22	3,349,920 7	604,823 2 17
- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7,202 1 3	993 -	7,202 1 3
180 - -	231 - -	107,072 3 2	- - -	33,258 2 -	1,127,041 1	140,742 1 2
- - -	- - -	133 3 22	- - -	33 - -	7,846 1	166 3 22
183 3 -	231 - -	107,209 1 19	- - -	645,310 3 25	4,485,801 1	752,935 - 16

(continued.)

Appendix, N^o 15, continued.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, - - -

COUNTRIES				CORN and GRAIN, VIZ.														
				From which Imported.														
				Barley.		Beans.		Indian Corn.		Oats.		Pease.		Rye.		Wheat.		
Year ending } 1820: 5 January				Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	Qrs.	bus.	
Russia	-	-	-	36,554	1	3	6	-	-	-	375,206	3	573	2	4,653	2	126,521	6
Sweden	-	-	-	1,066	4	-	-	-	-	-	795	-	394	4	-	-	-	-
Denmark	-	-	-	64,083	1	425	-	2,431	4	32,459	4	4,594	5	-	-	19,645	4	
Prussia	-	-	-	134,233	3	1,863	4	-	-	74,506	4	27,961	-	5,942	4	78,842	-	
Germany	-	-	-	108,774	-	8,981	3	-	-	36,844	-	2,634	-	3,038	2	74,804	7	
Holland	-	-	-	15,884	-	5,745	4	-	-	61,439	7	284	1	-	-	25,101	5	
Flanders	-	-	-	2,693	4	1,318	5	-	-	4,357	1	443	3	1,167	1	74,593	6	
France	-	-	-	-	-	8,335	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	886	2	
Portugal, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	119	5	925	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Spain, &c.	-	-	-	2,940	7	449	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300	-	
Gibraltar	-	-	-	-	-	910	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	
Italy	-	-	-	3,825	4	114,809	6	8,675	4	-	-	2,105	6	1,990	4	28,719	3	
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	21,845	-	-	-	-	-	11	6	-	-	136	2	
Ionian Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	149	4	
Turkey	-	-	-	973	6	19,988	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	7	
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey	-	-	-	298	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	608	4	
The East Indies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	2	-	-	864	1	
Cape of Good Hope	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	2	
British Provinces in North America	-	-	-	1,018	4	-	-	-	-	25	-	2,791	1	-	-	9,099	4	
United States of America	-	-	-	-	-	1,929	2	15,870	3	-	-	187	1	1,870	4	1,672	7	
TOTAL from Foreign Countries				372,345	6	186,724	2	27,902	5	585,633	3	42,004	1	18,662	1	442,064	-	
Ireland (Foreign Produce)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	
D ^o (Irish Produce)	-	-	-	20,290	2	3,903	6	-	-	759,608	4	-	-	2	4	127,308	4	
Isle of Man	-	-	-	1,523	4	-	-	-	-	899	6	7	4	10	-	1,948	4	
TOTAL quantities Imported into G ^t Britain				394,159	4	190,628	-	27,902	5	1,346,141	5	42,011	5	18,674	5	571,322	4	

Year ending } 1821: 5 January																	
Russia	-	-	-	8,789	1	-	-	-	-	260,761	5	57	5	9,422	7	93,137	6
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,491	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	-	-	-	6,360	4	-	-	-	-	110,781	3	200	1	-	-	30,252	7
Prussia	-	-	-	2,393	-	284	1	-	-	126,333	6	7,368	6	2,445	6	217,385	3
Germany	-	-	-	10,912	3	4,742	4	-	-	99,106	6	813	4	232	6	102,902	7
Holland	-	-	-	-	-	800	1	-	-	65,740	2	-	-	-	-	1,092	-
Flanders	-	-	-	46	7	652	-	-	-	3,823	3	-	-	-	-	6,658	3
France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,467	6	8	2	-	-	-	-
Portugal, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Spain, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	681	-	4,964	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	3,600	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	984	-
Ionian Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	25	-	1	2	-	-	1,690	4
The East Indies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cape of Good Hope	-	-	-	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	4
British Provinces in North America	-	-	-	86	6	-	-	64	6	6	2	3	6	-	-	29,167	4
United States of America	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	156	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,125	6
Valparaiso	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	5
TOTAL from Foreign Countries				28,670	5	10,760	2	5,185	-	681,538	-	8,453	2	12,101	3	484,453	-
Ireland (Foreign Produce)	-	-	-	-	-	49	6	-	5	-	-	8	-	-	-	96	3
D ^o (Irish Produce)	-	-	-	87,028	2	8,396	2	-	-	892,665	-	438	5	133	7	351,871	5
Isle of Man	-	-	-	1,245	7	11	6	-	-	1,407	2	27	7	4	4	4,434	-
TOTAL quantities Imported into G ^t Britain				116,944	6	19,218	-	5,185	5	1,575,610	2	8,927	6	12,239	6	840,855	-

Custom House, London, }
14th April 1821. }

imported into Great Britain, in the Years ending 5th January 1820 and 1821.

MEAL and FLOUR, VIZ.					TOTAL OF ALL SORTS IMPORTED.	
Barley Meal.	Indian Meal.	Oat Meal.	Rye Meal.	Wheat Meal and Flour.	Corn and Grain.	Meal and Flour.
Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Qrs. bus.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
-	-	-	-	148 1 26	543,512 4	148 1 26
-	-	-	-	-	2,256 -	-
-	-	-	-	-	123,639 2	-
-	-	-	-	-	323,348 7	-
-	-	-	-	-	235,076 4	-
-	-	-	-	-	108,455 1	-
-	-	-	-	-	84,573 4	-
-	-	-	-	1 3 8	9,222 -	1 3 8
-	-	-	-	-	1,045 -	-
-	-	-	-	-	3,689 7	-
-	-	-	-	-	912 -	-
-	-	-	-	30 1 8	160,126 3	30 1 8
-	-	-	-	-	21,993 -	-
-	-	-	-	-	149 4	-
-	-	-	-	-	21,067 7	-
-	-	-	-	309 3 3	907 -	309 3 3
-	-	-	-	23 - 10	885 3	23 - 10
-	-	-	-	-	12 2	-
-	-	-	-	4,631 1 10	12,934 1	4,631 1 10
-	1 - 20	-	-	91,432 2 20	21,530 1	91,433 3 12
-	1 - 20	-	-	96,577 2 1	1,675,336 2	96,578 2 21
-	-	-	-	629 - 10	1 4	629 - 10
70 - -	-	47,150 1 3	-	92,893 3 18	911,113 4	140,114 - 21
-	-	301 2 10	-	3 3 26	4,389 2	305 2 8
70 - -	1 - 20	47,451 3 13	-	190,104 1 27	2,590,840 4	237,627 2 4
-	-	-	-	-	372,169 -	-
-	-	-	-	-	13,491 7	-
-	-	-	-	-	147,594 7	-
-	-	-	-	267 - 11	356,210 6	267 - 11
-	-	-	-	-	218,710 6	-
-	-	- 1 22	-	-	67,632 3	- 1 22
-	-	-	-	-	11,180 5	-
-	-	-	-	-	1,476 -	-
-	-	-	-	5 3 22	1 -	5 3 22
-	-	-	-	-	2 7	-
-	-	-	-	3,232 2 10	5,645 -	3,232 2 10
-	-	-	-	-	4,584 2	-
-	25 - 24	-	-	963 3 25	-	989 - 21
-	-	-	-	279 3 20	1,717 -	279 3 20
-	-	-	-	1 2 3	-	1 2 3
-	-	-	-	-	124 4	-
-	-	-	-	40,488 2 22	29,329 -	40,488 2 22
-	-	-	-	314,358 3 5	1,282 -	314,358 3 5
-	-	-	-	-	9 5	-
-	25 - 24	- 1 22	-	359,598 2 6	1,231,161 4	359,624 - 24
-	-	-	-	4,354 - 10	154 6	4,354 - 10
229 - -	-	37,063 - 23	-	480,375 - 5	1,340,533 5	217,667 1 -
8 2 -	-	1,106 2 12	-	356 - 6	7,131 2	1,471 - 18
237 2 -	25 - 24	38,170 1 1	-	544,683 2 27	2,578,981 1	583,116 2 24

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 16.

AN ACCOUNT of the quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, of all sorts, distinguishing each sort, delivered from the Warehouses for Home Consumption, in each Year, from the date of the Act 55 Geo. 3, c. 26, to the 5th January 1821; showing the Amount in each Year.

SPECIES OF CORN, &c.		QUANTITIES delivered from the WAREHOUSES in IRELAND, FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.						
		From 23d March 1815 to 5th Jan. 1816.	Years ending 5th January					
			1817:	1818:	1819:	1820:	1821:	
Barley - - -	Barrels	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	983	—	
Beans - - -	Barrels	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Oats - - -	Barrels	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	228 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pease - - -	Barrels	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Wheat - - -	Barrels	- - -	- - -	81 $\frac{3}{7}$	- - -	- - -	105 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Indian Corn - - -	Barrels	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	62	—	

Custom House, Dublin,
25th April 1821. }

W^m Murrable,
Inspector Gen^l of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 17.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Grain and Flour, the production of Ireland, imported into Great Britain, from the 5th January 1807 to the 5th January 1821; distinguishing each Year, and the different sorts of Grain.

YEARS Ending 5th January,	CORN and GRAIN.					
	Barley.	Beans.	Oats.	Pease.	Rye.	Wheat.
	Quarters. bus.	Quarters. bus.	Quarters. bus.	Quarters. bus.	Quarters. bus.	Quarters. bus.
1808 - - -	23,018 -	3,777 -	369,003 -	1,390 -	431 -	42,655 -
1809 - - -	30,364 -	2,065 -	535,483 -	75 -	573 -	42,598 -
1810 - - -	16,619 -	2,669 -	799,446 -	38 -	425 -	64,761 -
1811 - - -	8,198 -	3,541 -	461,202 -	216 -	20 -	102,221 -
1812 - - -	2,713 -	4,081 -	256,630 -	50 -	21 -	128,090 -
1813 - - -	43,146 -	5,008 -	356,062 -	51 -	177 -	135,160 -
1814 - - -	63,560 -	4,455 -	645,247 -	77 -	420 -	171,334 -
1815 - - -	16,779 2	5,730 7	534,099 4	459 4	4 3	184,431 7
1816 - - -	27,108 2	6,370 7	576,544 7	425 4	207 1	159,188 3
1817 - - -	62,252 7	5,983 5	662,549 3	238 7	43 3	98,204 4
1818 - - -	26,740 3	2,274 4	594,437 5	12 -	- - -	50,842 -
1819 - - -	25,334 4	4,767 5	1,001,247 7	10 -	4 1	95,677 -
1820 - - -	20,290 2	3,903 6	759,608 4	- - -	2 4	127,308 4
1821 - - -	87,028 2	8,396 2	892,665 -	438 5	133 7	351,871 5

Appendix, N° 17.—Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour &c.—continued.

YEARS Ending 5th January,	MEAL and FLOUR.														
	Barley Meal.			Bean Meal.			Oat Meal.			Rye Meal.			Wheat Meal and Flour.		
	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1808 - - -	104	-	-	-	-	-	32,444	-	-	-	-	-	8,594	-	-
1809 - - -	761	-	-	-	-	-	69,915	-	-	-	-	-	3,145	-	-
1810 - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,815	-	-	-	-	-	11,770	-	-
1811 - - -	421	-	-	-	-	-	50,331	-	-	-	-	-	88,512	-	-
1812 - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,056	-	-	-	-	-	68,169	-	-
1813 - - -	399	-	-	-	-	-	54,786	-	-	-	-	-	89,889	-	-
1814 - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,681	-	-	-	-	-	160,369	-	-
1815 - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,002	3	6	-	-	-	143,662	1	6
1816 - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,988	-	4	-	-	-	106,242	3	18
1817 - - -	5	-	-	-	-	-	33,259	-	21	-	-	-	81,992	3	23
1818 - - -	88	-	-	-	-	-	26,211	-	21	-	-	-	16,238	1	4
1819 - - -	180	-	-	231	-	-	107,072	3	2	-	-	-	33,258	2	-
1820 - - -	70	-	-	-	-	-	47,150	1	3	-	-	-	92,893	3	18
1821 - - -	229	-	-	-	-	-	37,063	-	23	-	-	-	180,375	-	5

Note.—The Returns for the Quarter ended the 5th April 1821, not being yet received from the Ports, the above Account for the fourteen Years ending the 5th January 1821, is in the mean time submitted.

Custom House, London, }
25th April 1821.

Andrew Sturt,
Assistant Insp^r Gen^l.

Appendix, N° 18.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Grain and Flour of the growth and production of Ireland, imported into England, between the 5th January and 5th April 1821; distinguishing the sorts.

										QUANTITIES Of Irish Grain and Flour Imported INTO ENGLAND, In the Quarter ended 5th April 1821.		
										Corn and Grain.		Meal and Flour.
										Quarters.	bus.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
Barley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,819	4	-
Beans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,463	-	-
Oats	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	283,554	1	-
Pease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	251	2	-
Rye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	5	-
Wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	198,130	1	-
Barley Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	507 - -
Oat Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,363 1 4
Wheat Meal and Flour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94,475 - -
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	508,396	5	106,345 1 4

Appendix, N° 19.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Grain and Flour of the growth and production of Ireland, imported into Great Britain, between the 5th January and 5th April 1821; distinguishing the sorts.

							QUANTITIES Of Irish Grain and Flour Imported INTO GREAT BRITAIN, In the Quarter ended 5th April 1821.				
							Corn and Grain.		Meal and Flour.		
							Quarters.	bus.	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Barley	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,828	1			
Beans	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,867	1			
Oats	-	-	-	-	-	-	437,245	2			
Pease	-	-	-	-	-	-	871	1			
Rye	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	5			
Wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	218,764	3			
Barley Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	507	-	-
Oat Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,817	-	4
Wheat Meal and Flour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99,062	2	
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	687,754	5	114,386	2	4

Custom House London,
8th May 1821.

Andrew Sturt,
Assistant Insp^r Gen^l.

Appendix, N° 20.

AN ACCOUNT of the quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, of all sorts, distinguishing each sort, delivered from the Warehouses for Home Consumption, in each Year, from the date of the Act 55 Geo 3, c. 26, to the 5th January 1821; showing the Amount in each Year.

							Years ending the 5th January					
							1816:	1817:	1818:	1819:	1820:	1821:
							Qrs. Bus.	Qrs. Bus.	Qrs. Bus.	Qrs. Bus.	Qrs. Bus.	Qrs. Bus.
Barley	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,476 4	61 4	6 -	873 -	380 2	-
Beans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,600 5	1,595 6	298 2	-
Oats	-	-	-	-	-	-	675 4	12,860 6	742 6	6,076 3	1,035 6	207,305 6
Pease	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 1	-	1,044 3	559 -	437 3	-
Rye	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,171 5	3,620 6	24 2	23,383 2	-	-
Wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,947 6	93,654 1	4,559 3	22,478 1	3,778 2	2,740 2
Total of Corn and Grain							17,272 4	110,197 1	8,977 3	54,965 4	5,929 7	210,046 -
							Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
Indian Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	528 2 12	-	-	-
Oat Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	250 2 14	-	-	-	-	-
Rye Meal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	903 1 14	9 2 16	-	-
Wheat Meal and Flour	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 - 2	68,406 3 8	4,656 1 23	50,278 1 1	-	1,779 1 6
Total of Meal and Flour							251 2 16	68,406 3 8	6,088 1 21	50,287 3 17	-	1,779 1 6

Note.—The above Account of deliveries from the Warehouses, is exclusive of Corn imported during the periods when it was admitted to entry for Home Consumption, without being subject to the restriction of warehousing.

Custom House, London,
18th April 1821.

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 21.

AN ACCOUNT of all Grain, Wheat, Meal and Flour, warehoused under the Act 55 Geo. 3, c. 26, and remaining in the said Warehouses on the 5th January 1821; distinguishing the several sorts of such Grain.

SPECIES.	Quantity of FOREIGN CORN, &c. that remained in Warehouse, in Great Britain, on the 5th January 1821.					
	CORN and GRAIN.			MEAL and FLOUR.		
	Quarters.	Bus.		Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Barley - - - - -	31,422	-		-	-	-
Beans - - - - -	29,770	2		-	-	-
Indian Corn - - - - -	2,749	-		-	-	-
Oats - - - - -	13,369	5		-	-	-
Pease - - - - -	12,606	7		-	-	-
Rye - - - - -	10,712	1		-	-	-
Wheat - - - - -	733,762	-		-	-	-
Wheat Meal and Flour - - -	-	-	-	178,751	3	24
TOTAL - - - - -	834,391	7		178,751	3	24

Custom House, London, }
17th February 1821. }

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports
of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 22.

(Ireland.)—AN ACCOUNT of all Grain, Wheat, Meal and Flour, warehoused under the Act 55 Geo. 3, c. 26, and remaining in said Warehouses on the 5th January 1821; distinguishing the several sorts of such Grain.

SPECIES OF CORN IMPORTED.			QUANTITY Warehoused.	QUANTITY Remaining in Warehouses on the 5th January 1821.
CORN - -	Barley - -	barrels -	1,846	420
	Beans - -	barrels -	2 ½	—
	Oats - -	barrels -	228	—
	Peas - -	barrels -	7 ½	—
	Wheat - -	barrels -	3,202 ¼	2,407
INDIAN -	Corn - -	barrels -	62	—

Custom House, Dublin, }
5th March 1821. }

W^m Marrable,
Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 23.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Number of Quarters of Foreign Oats, admitted into Home Consumption, in Great Britain, from the 15th August to the 16th November 1820.

Quarters.	Bus.
726,873.	2.

Custom House, London, }
13th February 1821. }

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports
of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 24.

AN ACCOUNT of the quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, of all sorts, distinguishing each sort, imported into and exported from Ireland, from and to Foreign Countries and our own Colonies, from the 5th of January 1791 to the 5th of January 1821; showing the Amount in each year, and the Excess of Imports or Exports, as the case may be; distinguishing that imported from or exported to our Colonies, and reducing the whole into Quarters, as in the similar Returns from Great Britain.

YEARS Ending		BARLEY,						
		Imported from			Exported to			
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	IMPORT Excess.
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
25th of March	1792	- - -	- - -	- - -	458	4	462	- - - 462
	1793	875	- - -	875	542	2	544	331 -
	1794	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,811	$\frac{3}{4}$	2,811 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - - 2,811 $\frac{3}{4}$
	1795	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5	5	- - - 5
	1796	- - -	- - -	- - -	1	- - -	1	- - - 1
	1797	1,341	- - -	1,341	- - -	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1,340 $\frac{1}{4}$ -
	1798	16	- - -	16	342	- - -	342	- - - 326
	1799	-	-	-	-	-	-	- - -
	1800	- - -	- - -	- - -	2	- - -	2	- - - 2
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.		1801	157	- - -	157	- - -	- - -	157 -
5th of January	1802	45	- - -	45	- - -	- - -	- - -	45 -
	1803	$\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	12	- - -	12	- - - 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1804	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,691	2	3,693	- - - 3,693
	1805	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,350	- - -	1,350	- - - 1,350
	1806	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,902	4	6,906	- - - 6,906
	1807	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,400	- - -	2,400	- - - 2,400
	1808	- - -	- - -	- - -	11,716	- - -	11,716	- - - 11,716
	1809	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,949	- - -	3,949	- - - 3,949
	1810	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,924	- - -	3,924	- - - 3,924
	1811	1	- - -	1	39,511	1	39,512	- - - 39,511
	1812	- - -	- - -	- - -	97,249	$\frac{3}{4}$	97,249 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - - 97,249 $\frac{3}{4}$
	1813	- - -	- - -	- - -	79,895	7	79,902	- - - 79,902
	1814	- - -	- - -	- - -	130,508	- - -	130,508	- - - 130,508
	1815	692	- - -	692	47,313	5	47,318	- - - 46,626
	1816	- - -	- - -	- - -	54,253	5	54,258	- - - 54,258
	1817	- - -	- - -	- - -	41,616	- - -	41,616	- - - 41,616
	1818	68	- - -	68	10,333	358	10,691	- - - 10,623
	1819	627	- - -	627	1,456	7	1,463	- - - 836
	1820	1,051	- - -	1,051	3	77	80	971 -
	1821	- - -	- - -	- - -	8	42	50	- - - 50

Appendix, N^o 24.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, &c.—continued.

YEARS Ending		BEANS and PEASE,							
		Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.	EXPORT Excess.
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.		
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
25th of March	1792	173	- - -	173	220	64	284	- - -	111
	1793	113	- - -	113	$\frac{1}{2}$	68	$68\frac{1}{2}$	$44\frac{1}{2}$	—
	1794	$\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	86	101	- - -	$100\frac{1}{2}$
	1795	185	- - -	185	1	67	68	117	—
	1796	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2	2	- - -	2
	1797	132	- - -	132	11	3	14	118	—
	1798	$\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	158	158	- - -	$157\frac{1}{2}$
	1799	166	- - -	166	- - -	737	737	- - -	571
	1800	- - -	- - -	- - -	27	1	28	- - -	28
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.		1801	20	- - -	20	2	- - -	2	18
5th of January	1802	158	- - -	158	- - -	1	1	157	—
	1803	35	- - -	35	8	63	71	- - -	36
	1804	20	- - -	20	- - -	8	8	12	—
	1805	9	- - -	9	73	16	89	- - -	80
	1806	3	- - -	3	5	18	23	- - -	20
	1807	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1808	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	32	32	- - -	32
	1809	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$
	1810	$\frac{1}{2}$	73	$73\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	- - -	- - -	$73\frac{1}{2}$	—
	1811	60	- - -	60	- - -	- - -	- - -	60	—
	1812	17	19	36	829	35	864	- - -	828
	1813	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1814	25	- - -	25	560	- - -	560	- - -	535
	1815	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	57	57	- - -	57
	1816	- - -	- - -	- - -	309	- - -	309	- - -	309
	1817	- - -	- - -	- - -	18	12	30	- - -	30
	1818	12	- - -	12	- - -	147	147	- - -	135
	1819	1	6	7	- - -	- - -	- - -	7	—
	1820	$\frac{1}{2}$	17	$17\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	- - -	- - -	$17\frac{1}{2}$	—
	1821	6	71	77	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$75\frac{1}{2}$	—

(continued.)

Appendix, N^o 24.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, &c.—*continued*.

YEARS Ending		INDIAN CORN AND MEAL,							
		Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.	EXPORT Excess.
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.		
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
25th of March	1792	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1793	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1794	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1795	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1796	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1797	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1798	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1799	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1800	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.		1801	15,900	- - -	15,900	- - -	- - -	15,900	—
5th of January	1802	62,489	- - -	62,489	- - -	- - -	- - -	62,489	—
	1803	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,441	74	1,515	- - -	1,515
	1804	- - -	- - -	- - -	153	- - -	153	- - -	153
	1805	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1806	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1807	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1808	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1809	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1810	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1811	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1812	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1813	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1814	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1815	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1816	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1817	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1818	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1819	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1820	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1821	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Appendix, N^o 24.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, &c.—continued.

YEARS Ending		M A L T,							
		Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.	EXPORT Excess.
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL		
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
25th of March	1792	—	—	—	50	—	50	—	50
	1793	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1794	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1795	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1796	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1797	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1798	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1799	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1800	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.	1801	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1802	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1803	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1804	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1805	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1806	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1807	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1808	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1809	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1810	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1811	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1812	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1813	—	—	—	56	—	56	—	56
5th of January	1814	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1815	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1816	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1817	—	—	—	2,018	3,279	5,297	—	5,297
	1818	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1819	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2
	1820	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1821	—	—	—	—	112	112	—	112

Appendix, N^o 24.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, &c.—continued.

OATS and OAT MEAL,

YEARS Ending								
	Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.	EXPORT Excess.
	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.		
	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1792	289	- - -	289	11,799	5,946	17,745	- - -	17,456
1793	63	- - -	63	5,435	4,030	9,465	- - -	9,402
1794	14	- - -	14	1,453	3,135	4,588	- - -	4,574
1795	354	- - -	354	505	1,456	1,961	- - -	1,607
25th of March 1796	- - -	- - -	- - -	374	2,360	2,734	- - -	2,734
1797	26	- - -	26	613	3,402	4,015	- - -	3,989
1798	- - -	- - -	- - -	820	3,849	4,669	- - -	4,669
1799	- - -	- - -	- - -	66	992	1,058	- - -	1,058
1800	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,366	898	3,264	- - -	3,264
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan. 1801	526	- - -	526	388	301	689	- - -	163
1802	609	- - -	609	940	1,047	1,987	- - -	1,378
1803	241	- - -	241	1,306	3,435	4,741	- - -	4,500
1804	360	- - -	360	267	1,109	1,376	- - -	1,016
1805	166	- - -	166	36	734	770	- - -	604
1806	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,096	1,185	3,281	- - -	3,281
1807	- - -	- - -	- - -	115	428	543	- - -	543
1808	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,368	1,117	2,485	- - -	2,485
1809	- - -	- - -	- - -	175	857	1,032	- - -	1,032
1810	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,492	1,947	3,439	- - -	3,439
5th of January 1811	294	- - -	294	22,051	1,903	23,954	- - -	23,660
1812	- - -	- - -	- - -	82,332	2,215	84,547	- - -	84,547
1813	- - -	- - -	- - -	52,900	1,671	54,571	- - -	54,571
1814	- - -	- - -	- - -	42,140	7,817	49,957	- - -	49,957
1815	99	- - -	99	52,988	3,761	56,749	- - -	56,650
1816	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,169	2,047	3,216	- - -	3,216
1817	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,050	5,492	7,542	- - -	7,542
1818	5,678	- - -	5,678	66	6,269	6,335	- - -	657
1819	613	- - -	613	1,595	4,428	6,023	- - -	5,410
1820	38	- - -	38	1,540	6,106	7,646	- - -	7,608
1821	266	- - -	266	214	5,075	5,289	- - -	5,023

YEARS Ending		RYE and RYE MEAL,							
		Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.	EXPORT Excess.
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.		
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
25th of March	1792	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1793	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1794	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1795	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1796	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1797	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1798	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1799	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1800	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.	1801	1,742	-	1,742	-	-	-	1,742	—
	1802	8,184	-	8,184	-	-	-	8,184	—
	1803	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1804	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1805	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1806	-	-	-	99	-	99	-	99
	1807	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1808	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1809	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1810	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5th of January	1811	-	-	-	16	-	16	-	16
	1812	-	-	-	493	-	493	-	493
	1813	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1814	-	-	-	17	-	17	-	17
	1815	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1816	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1817	-	-	-	11	-	11	-	11
	1818	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1819	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1820	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1821	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(continued.)

Appendix, N^o 24.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, &c.—*continued*.

YEARS		WHEAT and WHEAT FLOUR,							
		Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.	EXPORT Excess.
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.		
Ending		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	
25th of March	1792	699	- - -	699	73,593	1,454	75,047	- - -	74,348
	1793	2,947	- - -	2,947	61,483	1,357	62,840	- - -	59,893
	1794	1,027	- - -	1,027	8,884	1,044	9,928	- - -	8,901
	1795	21,508	- - -	21,508	- - -	48	48	21,460	—
	1796	- - -	- - -	- - -	2	490	492	- - -	492
	1797	6	- - -	6	2	941	943	- - -	937
	1798	- - -	- - -	- - -	2	1,120	1,122	- - -	1,122
	1799	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,101	306	2,407	- - -	2,407
	1800	7,038	1,436	8,474	48	45	93	8,381	—
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.	1801	28,596	4,539	33,135	$\frac{1}{2}$	57	$57\frac{1}{2}$	33,077 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
	1802	17,346	1,377	18,723	$\frac{1}{2}$	74	$74\frac{1}{2}$	18,648 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
	1803	2,297	1,995	4,292	494	679	1,173	3,119	—
	1804	5,978	1,228	7,206	1,641	49	1,690	5,516	—
	1805	225	- - -	225	23,313	329	23,642	- - -	23,417
	1806	1,228	- - -	1,228	10,558	385	10,943	- - -	9,715
	1807	282	- - -	282	1,068	660	1,728	- - -	1,446
	1808	5,068	- - -	5,068	2,045	186	2,231	2,837	—
	1809	- - -	521	521	7	1,119	1,126	- - -	605
	1810	4,930	2,088	7,018	98	543	641	6,377	—
	1811	508	908	1,416	23,523	479	24,002	- - -	22,586
	1812	820	- - -	820	82,323	1,470	83,793	- - -	82,973
	1813	159	2,791	2,950	78,170	3,673	81,843	- - -	78,893
	1814	32	- - -	32	45,131	22,769	67,900	- - -	67,868
	1815	- - -	- - -	- - -	30,489	31,030	61,519	- - -	61,519
	1816	- - -	- - -	- - -	58,127	2,139	60,266	- - -	60,266
	1817	- - -	- - -	- - -	25,474	3,574	29,048	- - -	29,048
	1818	38,876	3,060	41,936	2,542	523	3,065	38,871	—
	1819	9,678	1,345	11,023	1,724	2,913	4,637	6,386	—
	1820	2,562	- - -	2,562	291	3,303	3,594	- - -	1,032
	1821	- - -	- - -	- - -	63	456	519	- - -	519

Appendix, N^o 24.—Account of the Quantities of Grain, Meal and Flour, &c.—continued.

YEARS Ending		TOTAL Number of Quarters of CORN and GRAIN, MEAL and FLOUR of all sorts.						
		Imported from			Exported to			IMPORT Excess.
		Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	Foreign Countries.	British Colonies.	TOTAL.	
		Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
25th of March	1792	1,161	- - -	1,161	86,120	7,468	93,588	- - - 92,427
	1793	3,998	- - -	3,998	67,460 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,457	72,917 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - - 68,919 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1794	1,041 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	1,041 $\frac{1}{2}$	13,163	4,265 $\frac{3}{4}$	17,428 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - - 16,387 $\frac{1}{4}$
	1795	22,047	- - -	22,047	506	1,576	2,082	19,965 —
	1796	- - -	- - -	- - -	377	2,852	3,229	- - - 3,229
	1797	1,505	- - -	1,505	626	4,346 $\frac{3}{4}$	4,972 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - - 3,467 $\frac{3}{4}$
	1798	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - -	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,164	5,127	6,291	- - - 6,274 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1799	166	- - -	166	2,167	2,035	4,202	- - - 4,036
From 25th March 1800 to 5th Jan.	1800	7,038	1,436	8,474	2,443	944	3,387	5,087 —
	1801	46,941	4,539	51,480	390 $\frac{1}{2}$	358	748 $\frac{1}{2}$	50,731 $\frac{1}{2}$ —
	1802	88,831	1,377	90,208	940 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,122	2,062 $\frac{1}{2}$	88,145 $\frac{1}{2}$ —
	1803	2,573 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,995	4,568 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,261	4,251	7,512	- - - 2,943 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1804	6,358	1,228	7,586	5,752	1,168	6,920	666 —
	1805	400	- - -	400	24,772	1,079	25,851	- - - 25,451
	1806	1,231	- - -	1,231	19,660	1,592	21,252	- - - 20,021
	1807	282	- - -	282	3,583	1,088	4,671	- - - 4,389
	1808	5,068	- - -	5,068	15,129	1,335	16,464	- - - 11,396
	1809	- - -	521	521	4,131	1,976 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,107 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - - 5,586 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1810	4,930 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,161	7,091 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,514	2,490	8,004	- - - 912 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1811	863	908	1,771	85,101	2,383	87,484	- - - 85,713
	1812	837	19	856	263,226	3,720 $\frac{1}{4}$	266,946 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - - 266,090 $\frac{3}{4}$
	1813	159	2,791	2,950	211,021	5,351	216,372	- - - 213,422
	1814	57	- - -	57	218,356	30,586	248,942	- - - 248,885
	1815	791	- - -	791	130,790	34,853	165,643	- - - 164,852
	1816	- - -	- - -	- - -	113,858	4,191	118,049	- - - 118,049
	1817	- - -	- - -	- - -	71,187	12,357	83,544	- - - 83,544
	1818	44,634	3,060	47,694	12,941	7,297	20,238	27,456 —
	1819	10,919	1,351	12,270	4,777	7,348	12,125	145 —
	1820	3,651 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	3,668 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,834	9,486	11,320	- - - 7,651 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1821	272	71	343	285 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,686	5,971 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - - 5,628 $\frac{1}{2}$

Custom House, Dublin,
8th May 1821.

Will^m Marrable,
Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 25.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Number of Quarters of British Corn, for the shipment of which, either coastwise or to Ireland or Scotland, the requisite documents have been granted by the officers at the following Ports, during the four years ending 5th January 1821; distinguishing each year.

PORTS.	Year ending 5 January 1818.	Year ending 5 January 1819.	Year ending 5 January 1820.	Year ending 5 January 1821.
	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
Aberystwyth - - -	422	575	1,101	120
Aldborough - - -	49,292	42,049	43,717	44,375
Arundel - - -	8,899	6,713	7,772	9,551
Barnstaple - - -	4,788	7,521	10,278	8,111
Beaumaris - - -	14,360	30,421	22,999	17,641
Berwick - - -	147,565	139,965	180,393	196,726
Bideford - - -	10,645	15,021	17,939	14,215
Blackney and Clay - -	33,253	30,393	21,490	20,559
Boston - - -	299,763	236,738	236,130	273,091
Bridgwater - - -	12,769	8,574	12,041	10,783
Bridlington - - -	29,013	29,348	26,910	29,747
Bristol - - -	24,474	38,583	33,011	21,460
Cardiff - - -	4,266	6,110	9,759	12,388
Cardigan - - -	5,748	4,696	4,566	7,350
Carlisle - - -	2,918	4,672	5,251	4,830
Chepstow - - -	19,542	12,739	11,300	14,071
Chester - - -	410	342	260	354
Chichester - - -	12,589	13,679	14,444	14,720
Colchester - - -	81,442	60,389	51,480	54,463
Cowes - - -	6,047	5,056	3,756	4,211
Dartmouth - - -	967	8,819	11,247	9,587
Deal - - -	238	2,220	1,416	1,142
Dover - - -	4,093	3,551	2,002	1,249
Exeter - - -	8,300	2,664	1,832	2,095
Falmouth - - -	138	848	1,834	761
Faversham - - -	52,834	43,923	37,218	51,620
Fowey - - -	1,850	5,308	4,730	5,051
Gloucester - - -	12,757	6,564	1,186	1,508
Grimsby - - -	8,076	6,470	9,953	13,175
Gweek - - -	1,848	5,674	3,192	2,826
Harwich - - -	19,568	25,871	18,755	21,520
Hull - - -	106,610	85,680	89,011	76,003
Ilfracombe - - -	1,410	1,754	1,942	1,445
Ipswich - - -	188,722	159,714	110,636	133,888
Lancaster - - -	6,585	2,839	8,475	8,080
Leigh - - -	67,446	51,604	51,413	53,011
Liverpool - - -	41,748	30,527	22,650	10,613
Llanelly - - -	26,189	25,259	24,947	26,561
Looe - - -	651	4,907	6,237	5,797
Lyme - - -	660	556	107	352
Lynn - - -	273,830	190,651	139,377	149,990
Maldon - - -	80,243	52,127	52,393	69,562
Milford - - -	2,898	2,052	2,904	4,514
Minehead - - -	2,078	1,507	2,266	1,858
Newcastle - - -	22,570	15,667	11,292	7,412
Newhaven - - -	3,583	4,302	943	2,398
Padstow - - -	8,161	17,600	23,016	16,988
Pembroke - - -	11,388	14,578	13,502	17,429
Penryn - - -	1,682	2,708	220	308
Penzance - - -	943	791	442	—
Plymouth - - -	15,998	23,160	15,056	6,091
Poole - - -	5,898	6,019	4,176	4,159
Portsmouth - - -	9,001	4,970	4,406	3,423
Rochester - - -	15,773	13,104	9,665	11,119
Rye - - -	7,049	1,351	3,041	4,543
Sandwich - - -	34,794	28,873	25,347	28,153
Scarborough - - -	8,234	10,300	9,533	11,970
Shoreham - - -	6,034	4,159	5,071	5,657
Southampton - - -	32,941	20,425	24,701	23,243
Southwold - - -	26,719	21,249	19,594	22,645
Stockton - - -	14,204	18,852	13,866	22,843
Sunderland - - -	321	1,539	809	557
Swansea - - -	970	2,634	762	961
Truro - - -	360	3,648	1,568	1,486
Wells - - -	83,344	67,851	55,035	58,496
Weymouth - - -	5,878	4,537	3,252	3,664
Whitby - - -	5,622	5,503	9,150	4,680
Whitehaven - - -	994	506	590	23
Wisbech - - -	114,939	101,580	60,563	82,145
Woodbridge - - -	69,983	44,816	48,334	49,954
Yarmouth - - -	386,845	322,463	224,782	250,447
	2,572,172	2,177,358	1,909,036	2,051,768

Coast Office, Customs, }
March 3, 1821.

C. Welstead,
J. Walsh, Assis^t Collector.

Appendix, N° 26.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Sugar and Cotton (Wool) charged with Duties of Customs (in Great Britain,) in each of the last four Years ending the 5th January 1821; and a Compare of the Year 1821 with the Average of the three preceding Years; showing the Quantities on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption.

YEARS.	SUGAR.										COTTON WOOL.
	QUANTITIES CHARGED WITH DUTIES FOR HOME CONSUMPTION IN GREAT BRITAIN.								Deduct Proportion thereof Exported upon allowance of Bounty and Drawback.	Net Quantities retained for Home Consumption on the average of the Years.	Quantities charged with Duties for Home Consumption in Great Britain.
	British Plantation.		Foreign Plantation.		East India.		TOTAL.				
	Cwts.	qrs. lbs.	Cwts.	qrs. lbs.	Cwts.	qrs. lbs.	Cwts.	qrs. lbs.	Cwts.	qrs. lbs.	lbs. weight.
Year ending 5 January { 1818	4,146,663	1 2	4,575	1 22	27,059	- 4	4,178,297	3 —	1,217,501	1 20	115,045,899
1819	2,671,807	1 22	418	2 13	24,775	- 23	2,697,001	1 2	1,239,292	2 13	129,058,197
1820	3,282,814	1 10	244	2 14	99,440	1 12	3,382,499	1 8	907,759	1 10	95,288,576
Average of the preceding years. }	3,367,095	- 2	1,746	- 25	50,424	3 13	3,419,266	- 12	1,121,517	3 5	113,130,891
Year ending 5 January 1821. }	3,661,450	- 20	280	3 7	83,231	2 12	3,744,962	2 11	1,163,706	2 23	150,204,274

Custom House, London, }
18th April 1821. }

William Irving,
Inspector General of the Imports and Exports of Great Britain.

Appendix, N° 27.

(Ireland.)—AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Sugar and Cotton charged with Duties of Customs, in each of the last four Years ending the 5th January 1821; and a Compare of the Year ended 5th January 1821 with the average of the three preceding Years; showing the Quantities on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption.

	QUANTITIES CHARGED WITH DUTIES.				QUANTITIES On which the Duty has been paid for HOME CONSUMPTION.	
	Years ended 5th January,				Year ended 5th January	Average of the Three preceding Years.
	1818:	1819:	1820:	1821:	1821:	
COTTON WOOL - - - - Lbs.	2,394,738	3,486,772	3,057,290	3,660,348	3,576,993	2,873,862
SUGAR { British Refined.	Candy Brown and White - - - } Cwts.	738 - -	710 3 7	926 2 7	676 2 14	791 1 27
	Of all other sorts Cwts.	26,760 1 14	27,614 3 -	28,291 1 -	35,235 3 -	27,383 - 21
	Muscovado - - - - Cwts.	290,630 2 -	222,020 2 14	286,707 1 19	270,604 1 11	265,951 2 23

Custom House, Dublin, }
21st April 1821. }

W^m Marrable,
Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 28.

AN ACCOUNT of the Import and Export of Flax, Dressed and Undressed, into and from Ireland, for twenty Years ending 5th January 1820; specifying each Year, and the Countries, and the Duties and Drawbacks respectively payable.

YEARS ending 5 January,	COUNTRIES.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
		FLAX.		FLAX.	
		Dressed.	Undressed.	Dressed.	Undressed.
		Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
1801 -	England - -	39 - -	3,362 - -	- - -	- - -
	Scotland - -	- - -	107 2 -	6 - -	373 - -
	Russia - -	- - -	6,233 2 -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - -	- - -	303 1 -	- - -	- - -
	Denmark & Norway - -	5 2 -	106 - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	44 2 -	10,112 1 -	6 - -	373 - -
1802 -	England - -	- - -	1,159 - -	24 - -	1,277 2 -
	Scotland - -	- - -	- - -	5 1 -	1,399 - -
	Man Isle - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	120 - -
	Russia - -	- - -	4,164 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - -	- - -	16 - -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - -	- - -	308 - -	- - -	- - -
	Guernsey - -	- - -	14 - -	- - -	- - -
	Pennsylvania - -	- - -	- - -	- 2 -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	- - -	5,661 - -	29 3 -	2,796 2 -
1803 -	England - -	6 - -	4,146 3 -	20 - -	1,310 - -
	Scotland - -	- - -	1,504 - -	131 1 -	262 2 -
	Russia - -	- - -	4,693 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - -	- - -	490 - -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - -	- - -	853 2 -	- - -	- - -
	Pennsylvania - -	- - -	- - -	1 - -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	6 - -	11,687 1 -	152 1 -	1,572 2 -
1804 -	England - -	- - -	366 - -	905 - -	2,398 - -
	Scotland - -	- - -	3 - -	1,636 - -	55 - -
	Man Isle - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	24 - -
	Russia - -	- - -	1,943 - -	- - -	- - -
	Sweden - -	- - -	5 - -	- - -	- - -
	Pennsylvania - -	- - -	- - -	19 - -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	- - -	2,317 - -	2,560 - -	2,477 - -
1805 -	England - -	- - -	56 - -	1,538 - -	610 - -
	Scotland - -	- - -	- - -	357 - -	6 - -
	Man Isle - -	- - -	- - -	5 - -	111 - -
	Russia - -	- - -	2,593 2 -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - -	- - -	22 - -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - -	- - -	110 - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	- - -	2,781 2 -	1,900 - -	727 - -
1806 -	England - -	2 - -	2,283 - -	40 2 -	402 - -
	Scotland - -	- - -	550 - -	48 - -	5 - -
	Man Isle - -	- - -	- - -	7 - -	1 - -
	Russia - -	- - -	4,960 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - -	- - -	501 2 -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - -	- - -	120 - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	2 - -	8,414 2 -	95 2 -	408 - -
1807 -	England - -	1 - -	3,470 - -	74 - -	115 - -
	Scotland - -	- - -	310 - -	62 - -	36 - -
	Man Isle - -	- - -	- - -	9 - -	3 - -
	Russia - -	- - -	3,895 - -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - -	- - -	714 2 -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - -	1 - -	8,389 2 -	145 - -	154 - -

Appendix, N^o 28.—Account of the Import and Export of Flax, &c.—continued.

YEARS ending 5 January,	COUNTRIES.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
		FLAX.		FLAX.	
		Dressed.	Undressed.	Dressed.	Undressed.
		Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
1808 -	England - - -	3 - -	723 - -	4,940 - -	2,207 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	812 - -	398 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	127 - -	107 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	6,320 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - - -	- - -	10 - -	- - -	- - -
	New York - - -	- - -	1 - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - - -	3 - -	7,054 - -	5,879 - -	2,712 - -
1809 -	England - - -	- - -	52 - -	- - -	40,144 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	6 - -	10,288 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	27 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	1,201 - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - - -	- - -	1,253 - -	6 - -	50,459 - -
1810 -	England - - -	1 - -	7,730 2 -	332 - -	6,116 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	402 - -	- - -	381 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	2,539 - -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	2,174 - -	- - -	- - -
	Italy - - -	- - -	672 - -	- - -	- - -
	Spain - - -	- - -	1,400 - -	- - -	- - -
	Malta - - -	- - -	135 - -	- - -	- - -
	Pennsylvania - - -	- - -	15 - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - - -	1 - -	15,067 2 -	332 - -	6,507 - -
1811 -	England - - -	26 1 21	21,052 - -	- - 7	1,043 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	3,916 - -	- - -	852 2 -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	90 2 -
	Russia - - -	- - -	2,200 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - - -	- - -	280 - -	- - -	- - -
	Sweden - - -	- - -	300 - -	- - -	- - -
	Italy - - -	- - -	915 - -	- - -	- - -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	240 - -
	TOTAL - - -	26 1 21	28,663 - -	- - 7	2,226 - -
1812 -	England - - -	6 - -	1,847 - -	1 - -	13,409 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	575 1 -	8 1 -	1,701 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	88 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	640 - -	- - -	- - -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	100 - -
	TOTAL - - -	6 - -	3,062 1 -	9 1 -	15,298 - -
1813 -	England - - -	2 - -	105 - -	4 - -	38,226 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	27,720 2 -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	34 1 -
	Russia - - -	- - -	1,040 - -	- - -	- - -
	Denmark & Norway - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	200 2 -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	50 - -
	New England - - -	1 1 -	- - -	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - - -	3 1 -	1,145 - -	4 - -	66,231 1 -
1814 -	England - - -	4 - -	667 - -	33 - -	48,452 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	1 - -	21,171 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	128 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	3,569 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - - -	- - -	100 - -	- - -	- - -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	540 - -
	TOTAL - - -	4 - -	4,336 - -	34 - -	70,291 - -

Appendix, N^o 28.—Account of the Import and Export of Flax, &c.—continued.

YEARS ending 5 January,	COUNTRIES.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
		FLAX.		FLAX.	
		Dressed.	Undressed.	Dressed.	Undressed.
		Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.	Cwts. qrs. lbs.
1815 -	England - - -	1 - -	605 - -	5 2 -	17,031 - -
	Scotland - - -	1 - -	- - -	- - -	6,296 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	127 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	1,286 - -	- - -	- - -
	Prussia - - -	- - -	40 - -	- - -	- - -
	Sweden - - -	- - -	6 - -	- - -	150 - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	901 - -	- - -	- - -
	Spain - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,660 - -
	TOTAL - - -	2 - -	2,838 - -	5 2 -	25,264 -
1816 -	England - - -	14 - -	143 - -	- - -	22,188 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	1 - -	7,248 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	20 - -	117 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	103 - -	- - -	- - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	1 - -	- - -	- - -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	60 - -
	Madeiras - - -	- - -	- - -	8 - -	3 - -
	Spain - - -	- - -	- - -	18 - -	392 - -
	TOTAL - - -	14 - -	247 - -	47 - -	30,008 - -
1817 -	England - - -	- - -	401 - -	25 - -	21,586 - -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	3 - -	11,424 - -
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	3 - -	92 - -
	Denmark & Norway - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	37 - -
	France - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	145 - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	48 - -	- - -	- - -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	9 - -	153 - -
	Madeiras - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3 - -
	Spain - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 - -
	Streights - - -	- - -	- - -	5 - -	92 - -
	TOTAL - - -	- - -	449 - -	45 - -	33,533 - -
1818 -	England - - -	- - -	81 - -	8 - -	29,642 2 -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	14,612 - 14
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	1 1 -	- - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	2,395 - -	- - -	- - -
	Denmark & Norway - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4 - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	227 - -	- - -	- - -
	Portugal - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	126 - -
	Canaries - - -	- - -	- - -	6 - -	62 - -
	Streights - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6 - -
	Maryland - - -	- - -	- - -	14 - -	- - -
	Pennsylvania - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	12 - -
	Virginia - - -	- - -	- - -	2 - -	- - -
	TOTAL - - -	- - -	2,703 - -	31 1 -	44,464 2 14
1819 -	England - - -	- 3 14	477 1 -	5 2 -	23,556 2 -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	70 3 -	- - -	14,839 1 21
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	4 - -
	Russia - - -	- - -	1,328 1 7	- - -	- - -
	Norway - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	12 - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	142 - 7	- - -	- - -
	Italy - - -	- - -	17 - 14	- - -	- - -
	TOTAL - - -	- 3 14	2,035 2 -	5 2 -	38,411 3 21
1820 -	England - - -	- - -	89 3 -	6 - -	26,890 1 -
	Scotland - - -	- - -	- - -	54 3 -	5,380 3 21
	Man Isle - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	8 2 14
	Russia - - -	- - -	4,637 2 7	- - -	- - -
	Norway - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5 - -
	Holland - - -	- - -	112 - -	- - -	- - -
	Canada - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- 2 -
	Pennsylvania - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2 2 14
	TOTAL - - -	- - -	4,839 1 7	60 3 -	32,287 3 21

Appendix, N° 28.—Account of the Import and Export of Flax, &c.—continued.

YEARS ended 5th January,	RATES OF DUTY AND DRAWBACK PAYABLE on the IMPORTATION and EXPORTATION of FOREIGN FLAX, DRESSED AND UNDRESSED.								RATES OF DUTY PAYABLE on the EXPORTATION of FLAX DRESSED and UNDRESSED, OF IRISH PRODUCE.	
	DRESSED.				UNDRESSED.				To any Port or Place in Europe, except Great Britain.	To any Port or Place not being in Europe, or within the Streights, or within the limits of the East India Company's charter.
	Rates of Duty payable on Importation.		Rates of Drawback payable on Exportation.		Rates of Duty payable on Importation.		Rates of Drawback payable on Exportation.			
	In British Ships.	In Foreign Ships.	In British Ships.	In Foreign Ships.	In British Ships.	In Foreign Ships.	In British Ships.	In Foreign Ships.		
	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.	per Cwt. £. s. d.		
1801 - -	1 5 11	1 14 4	1 5 11	1 14 4	free.	free.	-	-	free.	free.
1802 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1803 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
	additional £.3.12. p' cwt. on former Rates, from 5th July 1802.									
1804 - -	d°	Rates and further additional of £.10. per cent. from 14th July 1803.	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	10s. per cent. ad valorem.	£.1. os. p' cent. ad valorem.
1805 - -	1 12 5	2 1 10	1 8 10	1 18 3	d°	d°	-	-	£.1. os. d°	£.3. os. d°
1806 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	£.1. 10s. d°	£.4. os. d°
1807 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1808 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1809 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1810 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1811 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1812 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1813 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1814 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
	and 25 per cent addi- tional on former Rates, from 17th May 1813.									
1815 - -	10 14 6½	11 3 3	No Drawback allowed.		* - - 4¾	- - 7	No Drawback allowed.		d°	d°
1816 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	10s. per cent. ad valorem, from 18th Dec. 1815.	£.1. os. p' cent. ad valorem, from 18th Dec. 1815.
1817 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1818 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1819 - -	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	d°
1820 - -	10 14 6	11 3 3	d°	d°	d°	d°	-	-	d°	10s. per cent. ad valorem, from 5th July 1819.
	from 5th July 1819.									

* These Duties were imposed from the 5th July 1814, to equalize with the Duties payable in Great Britain.

Custom House, Dublin, }
10th May 1821.

W^m Marrable,
Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

Appendix, N° 29.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of the under-mentioned Articles charged with Duties of Excise, in each of the last four Years ended the 5th January 1821; and a Compare of the Year 1821 with the average of the three preceding Years.

ARTICLES.	YEARS ended 5 January.		AVERAGE.	YEAR ended 5th January 1821.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.
BEER.	Strong - - -	1818	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	
		1819	5,086,211			
		1820	5,615,336	5,356,010	5,599,456	243,446
	Table - - -	1818	5,366,483			
		1819	1,412,654			
		1820	1,493,407	1,447,339	1,519,465	72,126
CANDLES.	Tallow - - -	1818	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
		1819	78,850,808			
		1820	77,837,827	79,810,409	83,355,740	3,545,331
	Wax and Spermaceti - -	1818	82,742,592			
		1819	888,257			
		1820	858,589	858,736	775,765	- - - 82,971
COFFEE - - - -		1818	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
		1819	8,033,665			
		1820	7,510,116	7,570,573	7,019,995	- - - 550,578
HIDES and SKINS.	Tanned, tawed, and dressed in oil -	1818	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
		1819	44,787,764			
		1820	46,141,056	46,219,498	44,702,217	- - - 1,517,281
	Goat Skins, Horse and Cow Hides, Vellum & Parchment - - -	1818	47,729,676			
		1819	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
		1820	158,992	161,558	183,254	21,696
MALT - - - -		1818	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
		1819	21,514,677			
		1820	25,405,925	23,399,181	24,621,613	1,222,432
SALT.	Salt and Rock Salt - - -	1818	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
		1819	21,514,677			
		1820	25,405,925	23,399,181	24,621,613	1,222,432
	Rock Salt for exportation -	1818	1,967,652			
		1819	1,948,682	1,936,437	1,982,191	45,754
		1820	1,892,977			
SOAP.	Hard - - -	1818	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
		1819	69,686,275			
		1820	67,256,366	69,474,516	73,770,014	4,295,498
	Soft - - -	1818	71,480,909			
		1819	4,329,867			
		1820	4,763,590	4,569,809	5,188,782	618,973
SPIRITS.	British - - -	1818	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
		1819	3,231,676			
		1820	4,136,752	3,547,668	3,179,238	- - - 368,430
	Irish - - -	1818	3,274,577			
		1819	1,564			
		1820	11,358	38,899	464,514	425,615
	Scotch - - -	1818	103,777			
		1819	1,360,280			
		1820	1,630,368	1,460,605	1,111,465	- - - 349,140
	Total - - -	1818	1,391,167			
		1819	4,593,520			
		1820	5,778,476	5,047,172	4,755,217	- - - 291,955

Appendix, N^o 29.—Account of the quantities of the under-mentioned Articles, &c.—*continued*.

ARTICLES.	YEARS ended 5 January.		AVERAGE.	YEAR ended 5th January 1821.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.
FOREIGN SPIRITS.		Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	
	1818	2,616,085	2,791,705	2,757,847	- - -	33,858
	1819	2,889,106				
	1820	2,869,925				
	1818	844,745	866,421	1,043,313	176,892	—
	1819	732,904				
	1820	1,021,615				
TEA - - - - -	1818	lbs. 20,924,553	22,156,150	22,512,206	356,056	—
	1819	22,744,107				
	1820	22,799,792				
TOBACCO and SNUFF	1818	lbs. 11,929,412	11,847,825	11,680,120	- - -	167,705
	1819	12,134,342				
	1820	11,479,722				
WINES.		Tuns. Gallons.	Tuns. Gal.	Tuns. Gal.		Tuns. Gal.
	1818	776 26	975 185	916 169	- - -	59 16
	1819	1,139 231				
	1820	1,011 46				
	1818	18,873 175	18,446 198	16,300 155	- - -	2,146 43
	1819	20,272 97				
	1820	16,194 72				
	1818	2,128 69	2,105 128	1,915 43	- - -	190 85
	1819	2,191 192				
	1820	1,996 123				

Excise Office, London,
26th April 1821.J. Hodgson,
Acco^t Gen^l.Appendix, N^o 30.

(Ireland.)—AN ACCOUNT of the quantities of the under-mentioned Articles charged with Duties of Excise, in each of the last four Years ended the 5th January 1821; and a Compare of the Year 1821 with the Average of the three preceding Years:—Beer, Candles, Coffee, Hides and Skins, Malt, Salt, Soap, Spirits, Foreign Ditto, Tea, Tobacco and Snuff, Wines.

Years ended	Gallons of SPIRITS.	Barrels of MALT.	Pounds of TOBACCO.	AMOUNT of DUTY* on Hides and Skins.		
				£.	s.	d.
5th January 1818 - - - - -	3,655,473	353,081	4,785,166	42,337	7	1½
— d ^o 1819 - - - - -	4,367,396	454,136	4,195,192	41,827	12	9
— d ^o 1820 - - - - -	3,747,782	443,648	3,463,313	40,228	7	1½
Average of the above three Years	3,923,550	416,955	4,147,890	41,464	8	11½
Year ended 5th January 1821 -	3,363,611	456,691	2,580,804	37,197	1	2½
Decrease of the last Year - -	559,939	—	1,567,086	4,267	7	9
Increase of the last Year - - -	—	39,736	—	—	—	—

* There is no account kept of the *quantity* of Hides and Skins tanned in Ireland, the duty being charged on the capacity of the pits in which the Hides are tanned; the amount of the *duty charged* is therefore *substituted*, which affords an equally clear view of the state of the trade, as the rate experienced no variation during the period of this Account.

Note.—There is no Excise chargeable in Ireland, on any of the other Articles enumerated in the order for this Account.

The Chief Commissioners
of Excise.J. Vance,
Ex^r of Excise Office, 19 April 1821.

— — — — —

in so far as regards

ARTICLES CHARGED WITH DUTIES.

BEER	{	Barrels of Strong Beer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D° - - Table Beer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D° - - Irish Strong Beer imported directly from Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D° - - Spruce Beer, and all other Beer or Ale, imported from Foreign Parts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CANDLES	-	Pounds weight of Tallow Candles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COFFEE	{	D° - - - Coffee of the British Plantations in America, imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		D° - - - d° imported from places within the limits of the Charter granted to the East India Company	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D° - - - all other Coffee imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HIDES and SKINS	{	Tanned	D° - - - Hides of what kinds soever, and of Calve Skins, Kips, Hogs, Dogs, and Seal Skins, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			D° - - - Irish d° - - d° - - d° - - - imported from Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			Dozens of Goat Skins with shumach	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			D° - Sheep Skins for roans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			Pounds weight of all other Skins, and all parts and pieces of Hides and Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{	Tawed	D° - Irish Hides, or Skins not before enumerated, and all pieces and parts of Hides or Skins imported from Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			Hides of Horses, Mares, and Geldings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			D° - Steers, Cows, and other Hides, except those of Horses, Mares, and Geldings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			Pounds weight of Calve Skins, Kips, and Seal Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			Slink Calve Skins with the hair on	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
{	Dressed in oil.	- - D° - without hair, and Dogs and Kid Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Pounds weight of Buck and Doe Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Goat and Beaver Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Pounds weight of Sheep and Lamb Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		- D° - - Irish d° - - - imported from Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
{	Vellum	- D° - - all other Skins, and all parts and pieces of Hides and Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		- D° - - Buck, Deer, and Elk Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		- D° - - Sheep and Lamb Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		- D° - - all other Skins, and all Hides, and parts and pieces of Hides and Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		- D° - - Irish Hides and Skins, and parts and pieces of Hides and Skins imported from Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Parchment	{	Dozens of Vellum Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		D° - Parchment Skins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MALT	-	Bushels of Malt made	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Appendix, N° 31.

Duties of Excise, in each of the last four Years ended the 5th January 1821; and a Compare of the and Skins, Malt, Salt, Soap, Spirits, Foreign Spirits, Tea, Tobacco and Snuff, Wine:—
this department.

Years ended 5th January:				Average of the First Three Years.	Compare of the last Year with the Average of the Three preceding Years.	
1818:	1819:	1820:	1821:		Year 1821.	
					Over.	Under.
103,973	119,242	116,926	121,112	113,380	7,732	—
191,992	204,299	208,855	204,568	201,715	2,853	—
- - -	- - -	- - -	6	- - -	6	—
274	420	456	882	383	499	—
4,943,422	4,809,136	4,793,438	4,680,684	4,848,665	- - -	167,981
654,503	457,629	407,690	310,706	506,607	- - -	195,901
112	19	- - -	- - -	43	- - -	43
301	93	49	2	147	- - -	145
3,785,823	4,176,629	4,288,496	4,156,669	4,083,649	73,020	—
23,800	39,390	6,599	395	23,263	- - -	22,868
129	18	20	1	55	- - -	54
693	1,044	1,208	1,015	981	34	—
- - -	- - -	- - -	6	- - -	6	—
5	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	- - -	1 $\frac{2}{3}$
316	325	249	261	296	- - -	35
2	- - -	1	3	1	2	—
817	2,290	455	2,183	1,187	996	—
63	40	24	37	42	- - -	5
30	21	64	17	38	- - -	21
9	22	13	20	14	6	—
2	20	18	4	13	- - -	9
253,585	214,690	198,083	165,080	222,119	- - -	57,039
2	- - -	- - -	- - -	$\frac{2}{3}$	- - -	$\frac{2}{3}$
15	- - -	2	45	5	40	—
108	- - -	12	- - -	40	- - -	40
3,318	4,021	2,471	8,640	3,270	5,370	—
89,964	17,841	5,155	48,667	37,653	11,014	—
- - -	52	- - -	- - -	17	- - -	17
53	55	71	57	59	- - -	2
109	203	246	205	186	19	—
1,128,140	1,434,328	1,481,998	1,219,312	1,348,155	- - -	128,843

(continued.)

Appendix, N^o 31.—Excise, Scotland:—An Account of the under-mentioned Articles

ARTICLES CHARGED WITH DUTIES.

SALT	{	Bushels of foreign Salt imported for curing and preserving fish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Tons of mineral Alkali or Soda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Pounds weight of Irish d ^o imported from Ireland,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Bushels deficient on cargoes of duty-free Salt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o of Salt made for home consumption	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - - used in curing and salting flesh exported, and provisions for ships	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOAP	{	Pounds weight of hard Soap manufactured	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - - - soft d ^o - - d ^o -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - - - Irish hard Soap imported from Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BRITISH SPIRITS		Gallons of Spirits made for home consumption	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOREIGN SPIRITS	{	D ^o - Rum of the British Colonies or Plantations in America, imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - Brandy imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - Geneva d ^o	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - Riga Balsam d ^o	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TEA	-	Nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOBACCO and SNUFF	{	Pounds weight of Tobacco of the plantations or dominions of Spain or Portugal, imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - - - d ^o of the British plantations in, or the United States of America, imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - - - d ^o imported from places within the limits of the charter granted to the East India Company	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o - - - Snuff of the British plantations in America or Spanish West Indies, imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WINE	{	Tuns of French Wine imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o Wine imported from the Cape of Good Hope	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		D ^o all other Wines imported	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Excise Office, Edinburgh, }
19th April 1821.

Fred. Fotheringham,
John Douglas,
Samuel Rose,

charged with the Duties of Excise, in each of the four last Years, &c.—*continued.*

Years ended 5th January:				Average of the First Three Years.	Compare of the last Year with the Average of the Three preceding Years.	
1818:	1819:	1820:	1821:		Year 1821.	
					Over.	Under.
757	4,108	7	92	1,624	- - -	1,532
156	401	379	366	312	54	—
- - -	553	- - -	- - -	184	- - -	184
101	139	273	40	171	- - -	131
322,597	335,489	323,660	335,338	327,248	8,090	—
2,658	3,182	3,778	4,103	3,206	897	—
9,370,656	8,761,763	8,183,090	8,293,052	8,771,836	- - -	478,784
1,723,237	1,697,865	1,545,778	1,861,651	1,655,626	206,025	—
2,540	3,087	6,617	11,882	4,081	7,801	—
1,931,110	2,284,161	2,369,335	2,078,457	2,194,868	- - -	116,411
238,094	244,749	178,746	171,596	220,529	- - -	48,933
17,317	11,023	20,216	17,280	16,185	1,095	—
25,007	29,259	25,300	20,840	26,522	- - -	5,682
- - -	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{4}{3}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	—
- - -	80	- - -	3	26	- - -	23
1,745,866	1,696,264	1,599,946	1,877,600	1,680,692	- - -	303,092
416	141	- - -	- - -	185	- - -	185
2	- - -	- - -	- - -	$\frac{2}{3}$	- - -	$\frac{2}{3}$
62	143	95	75	100	- - -	25
57	51	44	55	50	5	—
1,267	1,448	1,161	1,222	1,292	- - -	70

*Jn^o Stewart, Accomptant.
James Dundas, Acco^t Gen^l.
D. Murray, D. Compt^r.*

Appendix, N° 32.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Barrels of Beer upon which Duty has been paid for the last ten Years, in the following Collections of Excise; distinguishing each Year, and the Strong from the Table Beer.

YEARS Ended 5 January,	MIDDLESEX: (London and limits of the Chief Office.)		BIRMINGHAM:	
	BARRELS.		BARRELS.	
	Strong.	Table.	Strong.	Table.
1812 - -	1,729,354	373,658	74,604	35,245
1813 - -	1,582,280	339,883	68,324	34,358
1814 - -	1,493,482	334,785	66,778	33,656
1815 - -	1,671,820	323,213	75,610	36,017
1816 - -	1,835,044	338,960	78,627	37,114
1817 - -	1,593,125	345,703	77,629	38,756
1818 - -	1,529,671	334,376	65,245	35,345
1819 - -	1,627,635	348,151	78,162	40,782
1820 - -	1,549,785	348,872	73,837	40,034
1821 - -	1,550,073	337,663	70,764	41,280

YEARS Ended 5 January,	SHEFFIELD:		LEEDS:		MANCHESTER:	
	BARRELS.		BARRELS.		BARRELS.	
	Strong.	Table.	Strong.	Table.	Strong.	Table.
1812 - -	37,816	555	39,743	3,776	119,507	863
1813 - -	35,949	482	41,359	3,376	102,639	276
1814 - -	34,773	407	42,448	3,008	107,400	186
1815 - -	45,160	270	45,795	2,686	124,612	416
1816 - -	47,621	437	47,172	2,758	127,565	375
1817 - -	43,792	311	45,478	2,969	124,778	195
1818 - -	39,144	258	45,855	2,419	120,031	63
1819 - -	45,812	265	49,522	2,761	131,709	43
1820 - -	43,471	238	46,795	2,413	122,669	29
1821 - -	40,881	358	44,623	1,928	128,864	70

Excise Office, London, }
17th April 1821. }

D. Langton,
Gen^l Accompt.

Appendix, N° 33.

Royal Hospital Greenwich.—AN ACCOUNT of the Prices of the following articles of Provisions, Clothing, &c.
for the several Years respectively mentioned.

	1814:	1815:	1816:	1817:	1818:	1819:	1820:	1821:
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Flesh - - p' cwt.	3 14 6	3 8 -	2 11 4	2 11 4	2 19 -	3 6 -	3 11 10	2 14 6
Flour - - p' sack	3 10 6	2 4 9	3 4 1	4 6 4	3 5 11	2 17 2	2 15 1	2 5 2
Butter - - p' lb.	- 1 2	- 1 2	- - 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - 11	- - 11	- - 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cheese - - p' lb.	- - 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	- - 8	- - 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - 6	- - 8	- - 7	- - 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Peas - - p' bl.	- 9 4	- 6 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	- 7 - $\frac{1}{2}$	- 8 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	- 10 9	- 7 8	- 7 1	- 5 -
Oatmeal - p' bl.	- 10 4	- 10 3	- 9 2	- 13 9	- 13 6	- 12 7	- 10 5	- 8 10
Salt - - p' bl.	- 19 9	- 19 9	- 19 9	- 19 9	- 19 9	- 19 9	- 19 9	- 19 9
Malt - p' quarter	3 17 8	3 9 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 6 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3 9	3 12 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 8 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 17 -
Hops - - p' cwt.	9 10 -	9 13 7	14 - -	22 4 -	7 15 -	5 14 2	4 6 -	3 18 -
Beer - - p' barrel	- 17 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	- 15 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	- 15 8	1 - 7	- 19 7	- 15 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	- 13 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 13 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Carpenters - p' day	- 5 6	- 5 6	- 5 2	- 5 2	- 5 2	- 5 2	- 5 2	- 5 2
Bricklayers p' day	- 5 5	- 5 1	- 5 1	- 5 1	- 5 1	- 5 1	- 5 1	- 5 1
Masons - - p' day	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 3	- 5 3	- 5 3	- 5 3	- 5 3	- 5 3
Plumbers - p' day	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 9	- 5 9
Candles - p' doz. lb.	- 14 6	- 11 7	- 9 3	- 9 10	- 11 1	- 8 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 8 3	- 8 -
Shoes - - p' pair	- 4 8	- 4 7	- 4 7	- 3 10	- 3 10	- 4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 4 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Coals - p' chaldron	3 2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 15 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 9 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 6 7	2 8 6	2 6 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 5 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 5 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mops - - p' doz.	1 10 -	1 10 -	1 10 -	1 10 -	1 10 -	1 10 -	- 16 9	- 16 9
Stockings - p' pair	- 3 3	- 3 3	- 2 9	- 2 9	- 2 11	- 2 11	- 2 8	- 2 8
Hats - - - each	- 3 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	- 3 -	- 3 -
Flock Bed - - „	- 12 6	- 12 6	- 11 6	- 11 6	- 11 6	- 11 6	- 11 6	- 11 6
Bolster - - „	- 9 4	- 9 4	- 9 4	- 9 4	- 9 4	- 9 4	- 9 4	- 9 4
Pillow - - - „	- 4 2	- 4 2	- 4 2	- 4 2	- 4 2	- 4 2	- 4 2	- 4 2
Blankets - - „	- 11 6	- 11 3	- 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Coverlets - - „	- 7 4	- 7 4	- 6 9	- 6 9	- 6 9	- 6 9	- 6 9	- 6 9
Blue Cloth p' yard	- 7 10	- 8 -	- 8 -	- 6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	- 6 7	- 6 7	- 6 7
Long Ells - p' piece	1 12 9	1 11 9	1 11 9	1 6 -	1 6 -	1 9 6	1 9 6	1 9 6
Serge - - „	1 8 6	1 6 11	1 6 11	1 1 6	1 1 6	1 5 6	1 5 6	1 5 6

16 April 1821.

R. Smith,

Clerk of the Check.

Appendix, N° 34.

Victualling Office.—AN ACCOUNT of the various Contracting Prices at this Department, for Wheat, Flour, Beef, Pork, Butter and Cheese, from 1814 to 1820, both inclusive.

(1.)—DEPTFORD.

DATE.	WHEAT, Per Quarter.		FLOUR, Per Sack.		B E E F			PORK, Per Tierce.			BUTTER, Per Cwt.		CHEESE, Per Cwt.	
	S.	d.	S.	d.	Fresh, Per Cwt.			Salt, Per Tierce.			S.	d.	S.	d.
1814:														
January -	-	-	65	4	—			—			—		—	
February -	-	-	62	8	—			—			—		—	
March -	-	-	67	—	-	-	-	11	5	4	-	126	5	71 10
April -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
May -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130	3	—	
June -	-	-	54	6	In the Year. 65 6½			—			—		—	
July -	-	-	61	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	2	—	
August -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
September -	-	-	68	4	-	-	-	9	1	3	8	3	11	—
October -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59 -
November -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	126	10	—	
December -	-	-	56	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61 -
1815:														
January -	-	-	60	1	—			—			—		—	
February -	-	-	60	1	—			—			—		—	
March -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123	3	68 -	
April -	-	-	63	11	-	-	-	No Contracts: the Prices 9 1 3 8 3 11 of preceding Years.			—		—	
May -	-	-	57	7	—			—			—		—	
June -	-	-	55	7	56	8½		—			—		—	
July -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
August -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
September -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
October -	-	-	59	—	-	-	-	-	-	-	106	8½	68 6	
November -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
December -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
1816:														
January -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
February -	-	-	53	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	77	7	59 8	
March -	-	-	53	1	—			—			—		—	
April -	-	-	57	10½	—			—			—		—	
May -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
June -	-	-	-	-	43	6½		—			—		—	
July -	-	-	64	7½	—			—			—		—	
August -	-	-	69	8	—			—			—		—	
September -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
October -	-	-	88	—	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41 10
November -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	7½	5	5	3	—
December -	-	-	100	5½	—			—			79	5	—	
1817:														
January -	-	-	100	—	—			—			—		—	
February -	-	-	89	6	—			—			—		—	
March -	-	-	88	9	—			—			—		—	
April -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
May -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59 8
June -	-	-	98	10	42	4¼		—			—		—	
July -	-	-	78	—	—			—			—		—	
August -	-	-	66	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	83	5	50 -	
September -	-	-	62	—	-	-	-	6	16	8½	7	12	2½	—
October -	-	-	66	6	—			—			—		—	
November -	-	-	—	—	—			—			—		—	
December -	-	-	67	10	—			—			—		—	

Appendix, N^o 34.—Account of the various Contracting Prices for Wheat, &c.—*continued*.(1.)—DEPTFORD—*continued*.

DATE.	WHEAT,		FLOUR,		BEEF			PORK,			BUTTER,		CHEESE,	
	Per Quarter.		Per Sack.		Fresh, Per Cwt.		Salt, Per Tierce.	Per Tierce.			Per Cwt.		Per Cwt.	
1818:	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
January - -	-	-	68	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125	10	65	-
March - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April - -	-	-	66	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	-
June - -	-	-	-	-	52	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
July - -	-	-	75	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August - -	-	-	71	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September - -	-	-	67	8	-	-	7 19 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 8 1	128 9	92	-	-	-	-
October - -	-	-	65	3	-	-	-	-	-	77	-	-	-	-
November - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	6	-	-	-
1819:														
January - -	-	-	57	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	78	-	-	-
March - -	-	-	56	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
June - -	-	-	57	6	58 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
July - -	-	-	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	-	-	-	-
August - -	-	-	56	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 10 4	7 13 3	87 8	59 6	-	-	-	-
October - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November - -	-	-	54	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67 5	52	-	-	-
1820:														
January - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February - -	-	-	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
March - -	-	-	63	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May - -	-	-	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	-	-	-	-
June - -	-	-	57	4	57 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
July - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August - -	-	-	63	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September - -	-	-	63	-	-	-	5 18 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 9 - $\frac{7}{8}$	75 6	55 6	-	-	-	-
October - -	-	-	54	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(2.)—PORTSMOUTH.

DATE.	WHEAT,		FLOUR,		BEEF			PORK,			BUTTER,		CHEESE,			
	Per Quarter.		Per Sack.		Fresh, Per Cwt.		Salt, Per Tierce.			Per Tierce.			Per Cwt.		Per Cwt.	
1814:	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
January - -	—		—		—		—			—			—		—	
February - -	68	—	—		—		—			—			—		—	
March - -	70	—	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61	-
April - -	68	9½	—		—		—			—			—		—	
May - -	—		—		—		—			—			—		—	
June - -	63	9	-	-	66	3¼	—			—			—		—	
July - -	57	11	—		—		—			—			—		—	
August - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	-
September - -	—		—		—		—			—			—		—	
October - -	—		—		—		—			—			—		—	
November - -	—		—		—		—			—			—		—	
December - -	—		—		—		—			—			—		—	

Appendix, N^o 34.—Account of the various Contracting Prices for Wheat, &c.—*continued.*

(2.)—PORTSMOUTH—*continued.*

DATE.	WHEAT,	FLOUR,	B E E F			PORK,	BUTTER,	CHEESE,
	Per Quarter.	Per Sack.	Fresh, Per Cwt.	Salt, Per Tierce.	Per Tierce.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	
1815:	S. D.	S. D.	S. D.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	S. D.	S. D.	
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February - -	68 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March - -	69 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	
April - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
May - -	—	—	56 - 3/4	—	—	—	—	
June - -	63 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
July - -	58 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October - -	—	—	—	—	—	106 11 1/2	52 5	
November - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1816:								
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February - -	59 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March - -	58 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	
April - -	70 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	
May - -	79 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	
June - -	—	—	44 6 3/4	—	—	—	—	
July - -	—	58 4	—	—	—	—	—	
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September - -	79 2 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	41 —	
November - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December - -	101 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1817:								
January - -	105 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February - -	97 2 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March - -	97 6	100 6	—	—	—	—	—	
April - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
May - -	106 9 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
June - -	114 2	—	43 1	—	—	—	—	
July - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September - -	77 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October - -	74 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
November - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December - -	82 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1818:								
January - -	87 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February - -	83 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March - -	80 7 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
April - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
May - -	75 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
June - -	—	—	53 1 1/4	—	—	—	—	
July - -	85 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September - -	77 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
November - -	76 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December - -	73 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1819:								
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February - -	77 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
April - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
May - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
June - -	—	—	59 8	—	—	—	—	
July - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
August - -	74 10 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October - -	66 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	
November - -	67 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December - -	64 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Appendix, N° 34.—Account of the various Contracting Prices for Wheat, &c.—*continued.*

(2.)—PORTSMOUTH—*continued.*

DATE.	WHEAT, Per Quarter.	FLOUR, Per Sack.	B E E F		PORK, Per Tierce.	BUTTER, Per Cwt.	CHEESE, Per Cwt.
			Fresh, Per Cwt.	Salt, Per Tierce.			
1820:	S. D.	S. D.	S. D.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	S. D.	S. D.
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - -	64 6	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - -	68 11	—	—	—	—	—	—
June - -	—	—	58 $-\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—	—
July - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - -	61 5	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - -	54 —	—	—	—	—	—	—
November - -	56 3	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - -	55 4	—	—	—	—	—	—

(3.)—PLYMOUTH.

DATE.	WHEAT Per Quarter.	FLOUR, Per Sack.	B E E F		PORK, Per Tierce.	BUTTER, Per Cwt.	CHEESE, Per Cwt.
			Fresh, Per Cwt.	Salt, Per Tierce.			
1814:	S. D.	S. D.	S. D.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	S. D.	S. D.
January - -	78 9	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - -	—	—	For the Year.	—	—	—	—
June - -	—	—	79 5	—	—	—	—
July - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November - -	65 10	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - -	68 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—	—	—
1815:							
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - -	63 10	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - -	70 —	—	51 11	—	—	—	—
May - -	68 —	—	—	—	—	—	—
June - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - -	—	—	—	—	—	106 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
November - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1816:							
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - -	70 —	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - -	87 6	—	—	—	—	—	—
June - -	—	—	For the Year.	—	—	—	—
July - -	—	—	34 1	—	—	—	—
August - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - -	79 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	46 10
November - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - -	122 10	—	—	—	—	—	—

(continued.)

Appendix, N^o 34.—Account of the various Contracting Prices for Wheat, &c.—*continued*.(3.)—PLYMOUTH—*continued*.

DATE.	WHEAT, Per Quarter.	FLOUR, Per Sack.	BEEF		PORK, Per Tierce.	BUTTER, Per Cwt.	CHEESE, Per Cwt.
			Fresh, Per Cwt.	Salt, Per Tierce.			
1817:	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - -	101 10	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - - -	101 10	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June - - - -	—	—	For the Year.	—	—	—	—
July - - - -	—	—	28 5	—	—	—	—
August - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - -	72 -	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November - -	78 -	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - -	86 -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1818:							
January - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - -	89 6	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - - - -	81 9	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - - - - -	—	—	For the Year.	—	—	—	—
June - - - - -	—	—	38 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
July - - - - -	76 11	—	—	—	—	—	—
August - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - -	78 -	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November - - -	75 5	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1819:							
January - - - -	72 -	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - - - - -	73 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June - - - - -	63 11	—	49 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
July - - - - -	69 11	—	—	—	—	—	—
August - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - - -	64 -	—	—	—	—	—	—
1820:							
January - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April - - - - -	70 2	—	—	—	—	—	—
May - - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June - - - - -	68 10	—	39 3	—	—	—	—
July - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November - - -	50 9	—	—	—	—	—	—
December - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(4.)—DOVER.

NIL.

Victualling Office, }
18th April 1821. }

J. C. Searle.

Nick Brown.

Tho' Welsh.

J. Aubin.

Appendix, N° 35.

BETHLEM HOSPITAL.—AN ACCOUNT of Prices paid for the following Articles, between
24th June 1814 and 31st March 1821.

MEAT.*			Per Stone of 8 lbs.			BUTTER.			Per Firkin of 56 lbs.		
From	To		£.	s.	d.	From	To		£.	s.	d.
24 June 1814	7 Oct.	1814	—	6	—	24 June 1814	28 June	1814	3	8	—
8 Oct. —	5 April	1815	—	4	11	29 — — —	5 July	—	3	6	—
6 April 1815	4 Sept.	—	—	4	8	6 July —	19 — — —	—	3	2	—
5 Sept. —	4 April	1816	—	3	9	20 — — —	23 August —	—	2	18	—
5 April 1816	3 Oct.	—	—	3	8	24 August —	30 — — —	—	3	4	—
4 Oct. —	17 April	1817	—	3	5	31 — — —	6 Sept. —	—	3	6	—
18 April 1817	1 Oct.	—	—	3	4	7 Sept. —	13 — — —	—	3	8	—
2 Oct. —	1 April	1818	—	3	—	14 — — —	20 — — —	—	3	10	—
2 April 1818	25 June	—	—	3	11	21 — — —	4 Oct. —	—	3	12	—
26 June —	7 Oct.	—	—	4	3	5 — — —	18 — — —	—	3	14	—
8 Oct. —	2 April	1819	—	5	—	19 Oct. —	1 Nov. —	—	3	16	—
3 April 1819	13 — — —	—	—	5	6	2 Nov. —	17 May 1815	—	3	18	—
14 — — —	22 — — —	—	—	6	—	18 May 1815	30 — — —	—	3	14	—
23 — — —	26 — — —	—	—	5	8	31 — — —	6 June —	—	3	10	—
27 — — —	13 Oct.	—	—	4	11	7 June —	13 — — —	—	3	6	—
14 Oct. —	13 April	1820	—	5	2	14 — — —	27 — — —	—	3	2	—
14 April 1820	9 Oct.	—	—	5	4	28 — — —	25 July —	—	3	—	—
10 Oct. —	31 March	1821	—	4	10	26 July —	1 August —	—	3	6	—
						2 August —	10 Oct. —	—	3	8	—
						11 Oct. —	17 — — —	—	3	12	—
						18 — — —	2 Jan. 1816	—	3	16	—
						3 Jan. 1816	30 — — —	—	3	12	—
						31 — — —	6 Feb. —	—	3	10	—
						7 Feb. —	21 March —	—	3	8	—
						22 March —	26 — — —	—	3	4	—
						27 — — —	30 April —	—	3	2	—
						1 May —	6 May —	—	3	—	—
						7 — — —	14 — — —	—	2	18	—
						15 — — —	21 — — —	—	2	16	—
						22 — — —	28 — — —	—	2	14	—
						29 — — —	13 August —	—	2	12	—
						14 August —	20 — — —	—	2	14	—
						21 — — —	29 Oct. —	—	2	18	—
						30 Oct. —	27 May 1817	—	3	—	—
						28 May 1817	17 June —	—	2	16	—
						18 June —	4 August —	—	2	12	—
						5 August —	14 Oct. —	—	2	16	—
						15 Oct. —	4 Nov. —	—	3	—	—
						5 Nov. —	23 Dec. —	—	3	2	—
						24 Dec. —	27 Jan. 1818	—	3	6	—
						28 Jan. 1818	17 Feb. —	—	3	10	—
						18 Feb. —	28 April —	—	3	14	—
						29 April —	19 May —	—	3	12	—
						20 May —	26 — — —	—	3	10	—
						27 — — —	9 June —	—	3	8	—
						10 June —	23 — — —	—	3	4	—
						24 — — —	20 July —	—	3	—	—
						21 July —	28 — — —	—	3	4	—
						29 — — —	18 August —	—	3	8	—
						19 August —	1 Sept. 1818	—	3	12	—
						2 Sept. —	6 April 1819	—	3	16	—
						7 April 1819	20 — — —	—	3	14	—
						21 — — —	27 — — —	—	3	10	—
						28 — — —	4 May —	—	3	6	—
						5 May —	11 — — —	—	3	4	—
						12 — — —	18 — — —	—	3	2	—
						19 — — —	1 June —	—	3	—	—
						2 June —	24 — — —	—	2	16	—
						25 — — —	14 Sept. —	—	3	—	—
						15 Sept. —	30 — — —	—	3	2	—
						1 Oct. —	5 Oct. —	—	3	4	—
						6 — — —	17 Feb. 1820	—	3	6	—

* Ox Beef; Wether Mutton; Veal; Pork.

Appendix, N^o 35.—Account of Prices, &c.—continued.

BUTTER—continued.			Per Firkin of 56 lbs.			BREAD—continued.			Per Half Peck Loaf.		
From	To		£.	s.	d.	From	To		£.	s.	d.
18 Feb. 1820	2 March	- -	3	8	-	3 July 1817	16 July 1817	- -	-	3	1
3 March	25 April	- -	3	10	-	17 - - - -	23 - - - -	- -	-	2	10
26 April	23 May	- -	3	6	-	24 - - - -	30 - - - -	- -	-	2	9
24 May	6 June	- -	3	4	-	31 - - - -	13 August	- -	-	2	7
7 June	21 - - - -	- -	3	2	-	14 August	24 Sept.	- -	-	2	4
22 June	22 August	- -	3	-	-	25 Sept.	8 Oct.	- -	-	2	2
23 August	27 Feb. 1821	- -	2	18	-	9 Oct.	8 Jan. 1818	- -	-	2	4
28 Feb. 1821	29 March	- -	3	2	-	9 Jan. 1818	13 May	- -	-	2	2
30 March	31 - - - -	- -	3	4	-	14 May	27 - - - -	- -	-	2	-
MILK.			Per Gallon.			28 - - - -	8 July	- -	-	1	11
From	To		£.	s.	d.	9 July	30 - - - -	- -	-	2	2
24 June 1814	24 March 1815	- -	-	1	6	31 - - - -	14 Oct.	- -	-	2	-
25 March 1815	31 March 1821	- -	-	1	4	15 Oct.	9 Dec.	- -	-	1	11
BREAD.			Per Half Peck Loaf.			10 Dec.	30 - - - -	- -	-	1	9 ¹ / ₂
From	To		£.	s.	d.	31 - - - -	14 Jan. 1819	- -	-	1	10
24 June 1814	13 July 1814	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂	15 Jan. 1919	21 - - - -	- -	-	1	9
14 July	20 - - - -	- -	-	1	11	22 - - - -	10 Feb.	- -	-	1	10
20 - - - -	17 August	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂	11 Feb.	17 - - - -	- -	-	1	11
18 August	24 - - - -	- -	-	2	-	18 - - - -	1 April	- -	-	1	10
25 - - - -	1 Sept.	- -	-	2	2	2 April	5 May	- -	-	1	9
1 Sept.	19 Oct.	- -	-	2	2 ¹ / ₂	6 May	26 - - - -	- -	-	1	8
20 Oct.	26 - - - -	- -	-	2	2	27 - - - -	27 June	- -	-	1	6
27 - - - -	2 Nov.	- -	-	2	2 ¹ / ₂	28 June	1 July	- -	-	1	8
3 Nov.	9 - - - -	- -	-	2	2	2 July	8 Dec.	- -	-	1	9
10 - - - -	30 - - - -	- -	-	2	1	9 Dec.	29 Feb. 1820	- -	-	1	8
1 Dec.	7 Dec.	- -	-	2	- ¹ / ₂	1 March 1820	8 March	- -	-	1	9
8 - - - -	14 - - - -	- -	-	2	1	9 - - - -	30 - - - -	- -	-	1	11
15 - - - -	11 Jan. 1815	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂	31 - - - -	19 July	- -	-	1	9
12 Jan. 1815	1 Feb.	- -	-	1	10	20 July	6 Sept.	- -	-	1	11
2 Feb.	8 - - - -	- -	-	1	9 ¹ / ₂	7 Sept.	28 - - - -	- -	-	1	10
9 - - - -	15 - - - -	- -	-	1	10	29 - - - -	15 Nov.	- -	-	1	8
16 - - - -	22 - - - -	- -	-	1	10 ¹ / ₂	16 Nov.	22 Jan. 1821	- -	-	1	7
23 - - - -	8 March	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂	23 Jan. 1821	31 March	- -	-	1	6
9 March	15 - - - -	- -	-	1	11	COALS.			Per Chaldron.		
16 - - - -	5 April	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂				£.	s.	d.
6 April	12 - - - -	- -	-	2	-	9 July - - 1814	- -	-	3	3	-
13 - - - -	26 - - - -	- -	-	2	- ¹ / ₂	9 August - - - -	- -	-	3	2	-
27 - - - -	21 June	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂	6 September - - - -	- -	-	3	-	-
22 June	28 - - - -	- -	-	1	11	1 October - - - -	- -	-	3	7	-
29 - - - -	24 August	- -	-	1	11 ¹ / ₂	24 - - - -	- -	-	3	8	-
25 August	6 Sept.	- -	-	1	11	8 November - - - -	- -	-	3	12	-
7 Sept.	7 Dec.	- -	-	1	10	23 - - - -	- -	-	3	11	-
8 Dec.	21 April 1816	- -	-	1	8	7 December - - - -	- -	-	3	10	-
22 April 1816	28 - - - -	- -	-	1	10	21 - - - -	- -	-	3	10	-
29 - - - -	5 May	- -	-	2	-	28 January 1815	- -	-	2	18	-
6 May	12 - - - -	- -	-	2	1	3 February - - - -	- -	-	2	18	-
13 - - - -	16 - - - -	- -	-	2	2	14 - - - -	- -	-	2	18	-
17 - - - -	23 - - - -	- -	-	2	4	9 June - - - -	- -	-	2	3	9
24 - - - -	12 Sept.	- -	-	2	2	9 December 1816	- -	-	2	10	9
13 Sept.	10 Oct.	- -	-	2	2 ¹ / ₂	4 October 1817	- -	-	2	6	-
11 Oct.	16 - - - -	- -	-	2	4	5 March 1818	- -	-	2	5	-
17 - - - -	23 - - - -	- -	-	2	5 ¹ / ₂	4 June - - - -	- -	-	2	6	6
24 - - - -	20 Nov.	- -	-	2	7	8 December - - - -	- -	-	2	-	6
21 Nov.	- - - -	- -	-	2	8	5 February 1819	- -	-	2	8	3
22 - - - -	27 Nov. 1816	- -	-	2	8 ¹ / ₂	2 April - - - -	- -	-	2	4	6
28 - - - -	5 Dec.	- -	-	2	11	11 October - - - -	- -	-	2	5	-
6 - - - -	5 Feb. 1817	- -	-	2	11 ¹ / ₂	9 November - - - -	- -	-	2	10	-
6 Feb. 1817	15 May	- -	-	2	11	10 - - - -	- -	-	1	17	6
16 May	4 June	- -	-	3	1	17 December - - - -	- -	-	2	11	9
5 June	11 - - - -	- -	-	3	2 ¹ / ₂	20 March 1820	- -	-	2	9	6
12 - - - -	2 July	- -	-	3	4	17 April - - - -	- -	-	2	6	3
						7 July - - - -	- -	-	2	5	6
						9 October - - - -	- -	-	2	2	6
						D ^o - - - -	- -	-	2	5	-
						9 April - 1821	- -	-	2	7	-

Bethlem Hospital, }
16 April 1821. }Nath^l Nicholls,
Steward.

Appendix, N° 36.

AN ACCOUNT of the Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, for Oats, Bread and Meat, supplied to His Majesty's Troops in England, from the 25th June 1814 to the 12th April 1821.

I N D E X.

BEDFORD - - - p. 452	HERTS - - - p. 460	SALOP - - - p. 468
BERKS - - - ibid.	HUNTS - - - ibid.	SOMERSET - - - ibid.
BERWICK - - - p. 453	ISLE OF WIGHT - p. 461	STAFFORD - - - p. 469
BUCKS - - - ibid.	ISLE OF MAN - - ibid.	SUFFOLK - - - ibid.
CAMBRIDGE - - p. 454	KENT - - - p. 462	SURREY - - - p. 470
CHESTER - - - ibid.	LANCASTER - - - ibid.	SUSSEX - - - ibid.
CORNWALL - - - p. 455	LEICESTER - - - p. 463	WARWICK - - - p. 471
CUMBERLAND - - ibid.	LINCOLN - - - ibid.	WESTMORLAND - - ibid.
DURHAM - - - p. 456	MIDDLESEX - - - p. 464	WILTS - - - p. 472
DERBY - - - ibid.	MONMOUTH - - - ibid.	WORCESTER - - - ibid.
DEVON - - - p. 457	NORFOLK - - - p. 465	YORK - - - p. 473
DORSET - - - ibid.	NORTHAMPTON - - ibid.	WALES - - - ibid.
ESSEX - - - p. 458	NORTHUMBERLAND p. 466	ALDERNEY - - - p. 474
GLOUCESTER - - ibid.	NOTTINGHAM - - ibid.	GUERNSEY - - - ibid.
HANTS - - - p. 459	OXFORD - - - p. 467	JERSEY - - - p. 475
HEREFORD - - - ibid.	RUTLAND - - - ibid.	

NOT any Contract for the Supply of Oatmeal in South Britain or the Channel Islands, has been entered into by this Department, during the period for which this Return is made.

IT will be seen, in some Counties that the periods are not complete ; to explain this circumstance, it is necessary to observe that no Contracts existed for the periods which are omitted.

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

B E D F O R D.

O A T S.				B R E A D.				M E A T.			
P E R I O D.			PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.			PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.		PRICE per lb.	
			S. D.				D.			D.	
25 June	- -	24 Oct. 1814	15/	25 June	- -	24 Oct. 1814	13	25 June	- -	24 Sept. 1814	11
25 Oct.	- -	24 April 1815	15/	25 Oct.	- -	24 April 1815	10	25 Sept.	- -	21 March 1815	10
25 Oct.	1815	24 April 1816	11/6	25 Oct.	1815	24 April 1816	8	25 March 1815	24 Sept.	- -	9
25 April	1816	24 Oct. - -	10/	25 Oct.	1816	24 Dec. - -	8 ½	25 Sept	- -	24 March 1816	8 ½
25 Oct.	- -	24 Dec. - -	11/	25 Dec.	- -	24 Feb. 1817	14	25 March 1816	24 June	- -	8
25 Oct.	1818	24 March 1819	14/6	25 Oct.	1818	24 April 1819	8	25 March 1819	24 Sept.	1820	8 ½
25 April	1819	24 Oct. - -	13/6	25 April	1819	24 Oct. - -	8 ½	25 Sept.	1820	24 March 1821	7 ½
25 Oct.	- -	24 April 1820	12/	25 Oct.	- -	24 April 1820	8	25 March 1821	12 April	- -	7
25 April	- -	24 Oct. - -	12/6	25 April	1820	24 Oct. - -	9				
25 Oct.	- -	12 April 1821	11/	25 Oct.	- -	12 April 1821	8				

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

BERWICK.

OATS.			BREAD.			MEAT.		
PERIOD.		PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per lb.
		S. D.			D.			D.
25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	11/	25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 June - -	24 Sept. 1814	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1815	10/6	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1815	5 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Sept. - -	24 Jan 1815	5 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 April 1815	24 Oct. - -	10/4	25 April 1815	24 July - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Jan 1815	24 March - -	5 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1816	9/3	25 July - -	24 Oct. - -	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 March - -	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{2}{3}$
25 April 1816	24 Oct. - -	8/6	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1816	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1816	5 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	10/11	25 April 1816	24 June - -	4 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March 1816	24 Sept. - -	5
25 Dec. - -	24 June 1817	13/6	25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	6 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 Sep. - -	24 March 1817	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 June 1817	24 Oct. - -	15/9	25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1817	24 Sept. - -	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1818	11/	25 Dec. - -	24 June 1817	11 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1818	4
25 April 1818	24 Oct. - -	15/	25 June 1817	24 Oct. - -	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1818	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{7}{12}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1819	15/	25 Oct. - -	24 Jan 1818	5 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Sept. - -	24 Nov. - -	5
25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -	11/10	25 Jan. 1818	24 April - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Nov. - -	24 Jan 1819	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1820	10/6	25 April - -	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Jan 1819	24 March - -	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 April 1820	24 Oct. - -	10/4	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1819	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March - -	24 Sept. - -	6
25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	9/	25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -	7	25 Sept. - -	24 Sept. 1820	5 $\frac{3}{8}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 April 1820	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. 1820	24 March 1821	5
			25 April 1820	24 July - -	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1821	12 April - -	4 $\frac{5}{8}$
			25 July - -	24 Oct. - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$			
			25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	5 $\frac{1}{8}$			

BUCKS.

OATS.			BREAD.			MEAT.		
PERIOD.		PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per lb.
		S. D.			D.			
25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	15/	25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 June - -	24 Sept. 1814	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1815	11/10	25 Oct. 1814	24 April 1815	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1815	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 April 1815	24 Oct. - -	10/10	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1816	8	25 March 1815	24 Sept. - -	9
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1816	10/8	25 April 1818	24 Oct. 1818	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1816	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April 1816	24 June - -	7/7	25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1816	24 June - -	7
25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	9/1 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Dec. - -	24 April 1819	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1817	5 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 Oct. - -	24 Jan. 1817	9/3	25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1817	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Jan. 1817	24 June - -	14/8	25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	6 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1818	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April 1818	24 Oct. 1818	11/	25 Dec. - -	24 April 1820	6 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 Sept. 1818	24 Nov. - -	6
25 Oct. - -	24 Jan. 1819	13/6	25 April 1820	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1819	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Jan. 1819	24 April - -	14/	25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Jan. 1819	24 March - -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April - -	24 Oct. - -	10/9				25 March - -	24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	24 Jan. 1820	9/7				25 Sept. - -	24 Dec. - -	7
25 Jan. 1820	24 April - -	9/10				25 Dec. - -	24 March 1820	7 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 April - -	24 Oct. - -	10/2				25 March 1820	24 Sept. - -	6 $\frac{1}{3}$
25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	8/11 $\frac{1}{2}$				25 Sept. - -	24 March 1821	6 $\frac{2}{3}$
						25 March 1821	12 April - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

CAMBRIDGE.

OATS.			BREAD.			MEAT.		
PERIOD.		PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per lb.
		S. D.			D.			D.
25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	16/	25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June - -	24 Sept. 1814	11
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1815	15/	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1815	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1815	10
25 Oct. 1815	24 April 1816	10/8	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1816	8	25 March 1815	24 Sept. - -	9
25 April 1816	24 Oct. - -	10/	25 June 1816	24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. - -	24 June 1816	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	9/10	25 Oct. - -	24 Nov. - -	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 June 1816	24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec. - -	24 Feb. 1817	15/	25 Nov. - -	24 Dec. - -	11	25 Sept. - -	24 Feb. 1817	6
25 Sept. 1818	24 Oct. 1818	14/3	25 Dec. - -	24 Feb. 1817	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. 1818	24 Nov. 1818	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	24 March 1819	14/6	25 Oct. 1818	24 Dec. 1818	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1819	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 March 1819	24 April - -	13/9	25 Dec. - -	24 April 1819	9	25 Jan. 1819	24 March - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April - -	24 Oct. - -	12/6	25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March - -	24 Sept. - -	7
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1820	10/11	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1820	8	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1820	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
26 April 1820	24 Oct. - -	11/4	25 April 1820	24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1820	24 March 1821	7
25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	10/6	25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March - -	12 April - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$

CHESHIRE.

OATS.			BREAD.			MEAT.		
PERIOD.		PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per lb.
		S. D.			D.			D.
25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	11/	25 June - -	24 Oct. 1814	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 June - -	24 Sept. 1814	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1815	10/6	25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	6 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1815	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 April 1815	24 June - -	9/11	25 Dec. - -	24 April 1815	7 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March 1815	24 May - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	9/11	25 Oct. 1815	24 April 1816	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 May - -	24 Sept. - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1816	9/6	25 April 1816	24 June - -	5	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1816	6
25 April 1816	24 Oct. - -	8/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1816	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	9/6	25 Oct. - -	24 Dec. - -	7	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1817	5
25 Dec. - -	24 June 1817	13/6	25 Dec. - -	24 June 1817	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept. 1817	24 March 1818	4 $\frac{5}{8}$
25 June 1817	24 Oct. - -	12/8	25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1818	24 May - -	4 $\frac{5}{8}$
25 Oct. - -	24 Feb. 1818	8/6	25 Oct. 1818	24 Dec. 1818	8	25 May - -	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Feb. 1818	24 April - -	12/	25 Dec. - -	24 April 1819	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. - -	24 Nov. - -	5
25 April - -	24 Sept. - -	13/6	25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1819	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Sept. - -	24 Oct. - -	14/10	25 Oct. - -	24 April 1820	6 $\frac{7}{10}$	25 Jan. 1819	24 March - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1819	13/5	25 April 1820	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 March - -	24 Sept. - -	6 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -	12/6	25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Sept. - -	24 Nov. - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	24 April 1820	10/6				25 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1820	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 April 1820	24 Oct. - -	10/3				25 Jan. 1820	24 March - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	8/				25 March - -	24 May - -	6 $\frac{1}{16}$
						25 May - -	24 Sept. - -	6
						25 Sept. - -	24 March 1821	5 $\frac{5}{8}$
						25 March 1821	12 April - -	5 $\frac{1}{16}$

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

CORNWALL.

O A T S.				B R E A D.				M E A T.						
P E R I O D.				PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D,
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	12/9	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	10
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	11/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	7 $\frac{2}{3}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1815	7
25 April 1815	24 June	-	-	10/	25 April 1815	24 Oct.	-	-	9	25 March 1815	24 May	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. - -	15/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb. 1816	6 $\frac{2}{3}$	25 May	-	-	24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Feb. 1816	24 April	-	-	8 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	4 $\frac{9}{16}$
25 Feb. 1816	24 April 1816			8/9	25 April	-	-	24 June - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 March 1816	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April	-	-	24 July - -	8/	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 March 1816	24 July	-	-	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 July	-	-	24 Oct. - -	8/2	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	8	25 July	-	-	24 Sept. - -	5
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	6/11	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	12	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1817	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	10/	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	15 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March 1817	24 Sept.	-	-	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 June 1817	24 Aug.	-	-	11/11 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Feb. 1817	24 June	-	-	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct. - -	11/8	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. - -	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan. 1818	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 March 1818	8/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1818	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Jan. 1818	24 March - -			4 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 March 1818	24 April - -			10/9	25 Jan. 1818	24 March -			10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March - -	24 Sept. - -			5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April - -	24 June - -			10/10	25 March -	24 April - -			11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 June - -	24 Oct. - -			10/1	25 April - -	24 Oct. - -			10 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan. 1819	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	13/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	8 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 Jan. 1819	24 Sept. - -			6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 April 1819	24 Oct. - -			11/9	25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1819	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1820	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	10/	25 April 1819	24 June - -			7 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1820	24 Sept. - -			5 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 April 1820	24 Oct. - -			12/	25 June - -	24 Oct. - -			8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1821	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	8/11	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7 $\frac{5}{16}$	25 March 1821	12 April - -			5
					25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1820	8 $\frac{7}{8}$					
					25 April 1820	24 Oct. -			8					
					25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	7 $\frac{1}{16}$					

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—*continued*.

D U R H A M.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
P E R I O D.				PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	8/3	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	6 $\frac{5}{8}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	8 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	7/10	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	5 $\frac{2}{3}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. -	4 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1815	8/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1815	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March 1815	6 $\frac{1}{10}$
25 April 1815			24 Aug. -	8/5	25 April 1815			24 Aug. -	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1815			24 Aug. -	5 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct. -	9/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct. -	7	25 Aug.	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	7/1 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	5	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1816	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April 1816			24 June -	6/7	25 April 1816			24 July -	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1816			24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{1}{10}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	7/11	25 July	-	-	24 Sept. -	6 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1817	3 $\frac{1}{10}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	8/5	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct. -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Jan. 1817			24 March -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1817	6 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 March -	-	-	24 Sept. -	4 $\frac{7}{10}$
25 June 1817			24 Oct. -	12/3	25 Jan. 1817			24 June -	10 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1818	3 $\frac{1}{10}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1818	8/3	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Jan. 1818			24 March -	4 $\frac{3}{10}$
25 April 1818			24 Aug. -	11/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	5 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 March -	-	-	24 May -	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb. 1819	13/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	7 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 May -	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Feb. 1819			24 April -	15/	25 Feb. 1818			24 April -	8 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April -	-	-	24 Oct. -	14/	25 April -	-	-	24 Sept. -	8	25 Nov. -	-	-	24 March 1819	5 $\frac{7}{10}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Oct. 1820	10/	25 Sept. -	-	-	24 Oct. -	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1819			24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{1}{10}$
25 Oct. 1820			12 April 1821	8/6	25 Oct. -	-	-	24 April 1819	7 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept. -	-	-	24 Jan. 1820	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
					25 April 1819			24 Oct. -	6 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Jan. 1820			24 March -	5
					25 Oct. -	-	-	24 April 1820	5 $\frac{7}{10}$	25 March -	-	-	24 May -	5 $\frac{7}{10}$
					25 April 1820			24 Aug. -	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 May -	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{2}{10}$
					25 Aug. -	-	-	24 Oct. -	6 $\frac{5}{10}$	25 Sept. -	-	-	24 Mar. 1821	4 $\frac{2}{10}$
					25 Oct. -	-	-	12 April 1821	5 $\frac{7}{10}$	25 March 1821			12 April -	5 $\frac{1}{8}$

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

DEVON.

OATS.					BREAD.					MEAT.				
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	9/6	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	6 $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{8}{16}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	8/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1815	5 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{9}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb. 1815	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 April	-	-	24 June -	9/	25 Jan. 1815	-	-	24 April -	5 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Feb. 1815	-	-	24 March -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{5}{16}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	10/5	25 April	-	-	24 June -	5 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 March	-	-	24 June -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	1st Jan. 1816	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June	-	-	24 Aug. -	5 $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{8}{16}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
2d Jan. 1816	-	-	24 April -	7/6	25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct. -	5 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1816	4 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 April	-	-	24 June -	6/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb. 1816	4 $\frac{5}{16}$ $\frac{9}{16}$	25 March 1816	-	-	24 July -	3
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	8/	25 Feb. 1816	-	-	24 April -	4 $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{2}{16}$	25 July	-	-	24 Sept. -	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{6}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	6/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 April	-	-	24 June -	4 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1817	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	8/11	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1817	-	-	24 Sept. -	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	9/	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct. -	6 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. -	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	7/9 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	6 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Feb. 1818	-	-	24 April -	11/	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	10 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Feb. 1818	-	-	24 March -	4 $\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{3}{16}$
25 April	-	-	24 June -	10/6	25 June 1817	-	-	24 Oct. -	9 $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	24 March	-	-	24 Sept. -	4 $\frac{2}{16}$ $\frac{2}{16}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	10/1	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1818	5 $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. -	4 $\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{3}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	12/	25 Jan. 1818	-	-	24 April -	8 $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan. 1819	4 $\frac{2}{16}$ $\frac{2}{16}$
25 April 1819	-	-	24 Oct. -	10/10	25 April	-	-	24 Oct. -	7 $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Jan. 1819	-	-	24 March -	4 $\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{3}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	8/7	25 Oct.	-	-	24 March 1819	6 $\frac{5}{16}$ $\frac{3}{16}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept. -	4 $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 April 1820	-	-	24 Oct. -	9/10	25 March 1819	-	-	24 April -	6 $\frac{7}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1820	4 $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1821	7/4	25 April	-	-	24 Oct. -	6 $\frac{3}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	25 March 1820	-	-	24 May -	4 $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Jan. 1821	-	-	12 April -	8/2	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	5 $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{3}{16}$	25 May	-	-	24 Sept. -	4 $\frac{9}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
					25 April 1820	-	-	24 Oct. -	5 $\frac{1}{16}$ $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1821	4 $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{1}{16}$
					25 Oct.	-	-	12 April -	4 $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{2}{16}$	25 Jan. 1821	-	-	24 March -	3 $\frac{5}{16}$ $\frac{5}{16}$
										25 March	-	-	12 April -	3 $\frac{5}{16}$ $\frac{4}{16}$

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

ESSEX.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.							
P E R I O D.					PRICE	P E R I O D.					PRICE	P E R I O D.					PRICE
					per 100 lb.						per 4 lb.						per lb.
					S. D.						D.						D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	9/11	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	6 1/3	25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	1814	8 3/4
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1815	8/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1815	5 1/3	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb.	1815	6
25 Jan.	1815	24 April	-	-	8/6	25 April	1815	24 Oct.	-	-	5 1/2	25 Feb.	1815	24 March	-	6 1/4	
25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8/2	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	4 1/4	25 March	-	24 Sept.	-	5 1/2	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	7/6	25 April	1816	24 June	-	-	4 1/8	25 Sept.	-	24 Dec.	-	4 1/4	
25 April	1816	24 June	-	-	6/6	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 1/2	25 Dec.	-	24 Feb.	1816	4 1/2	
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	9/3	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	5 1/4	25 Feb.	1816	24 March	-	4 1/8	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	8/	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	8 7/8	25 March	-	24 Sept.	-	4 1/2	
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	14/3	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1817	10 5/2	25 Sept.	-	24 Nov.	-	3 1/2	
25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	-	14/	25 Feb.	1817	24 June	-	-	10 1/2	25 Nov.	-	24 Feb.	1817		
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	8/6	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	10 1/2	25 Feb.	1817	24 March	-	4	
25 Jan.	1818	24 March	-	-	9/9	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	6 1/4	25 March	-	24 Sept.	-	4 1/2	
25 March	-	24 April	-	-	9/11	25 Jan.	1818	24 March	-	-	7 1/4	25 Sept.	-	24 Nov.	-	3 1/2	
25 April	-	-	24 Sept.	-	10/6	25 March	-	24 Oct.	-	-	8	25 Nov.	-	24 Jan.	1818	4	
25 Sept.	-	-	24 April	1819	12/8	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	7 3/8	25 Jan.	1818	24 March	-	4 1/2	
25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	11/4	25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	7 5/8	25 March	-	24 Sept.	-	4 1/2	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	11/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1820	6 1/4	25 Sept.	-	24 Nov.	-	5 1/2	
25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	-	10/	25 Jan.	1820	24 April	-	-	6 3/8	25 Nov.	-	24 Feb.	1819	6	
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	8/	25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 3/8	25 Feb.	1819	24 March	-	6	
						25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	6 3/8	25 March	-	24 May	-	6 1/4	
												25 May	-	24 Sept.	-	6 1/4	
												25 Sept.	-	24 Nov.	-	6 1/4	
												25 Nov.	-	24 Jan.	1820	6 1/4	
												25 Jan.	1820	24 March	-	6 1/4	
												25 March	-	24 Sept.	-	6 1/4	
												25 Sept.	-	24 March	1821	5 3/4	
												25 March	1821	12 April	-	5 1/4	

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—*continued.*

HANTS.

OATS.					BREAD.					MEAT.							
PERIOD.					PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.					PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.					PRICE per lb.
					S. D.						D.						D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	9/5 1/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	6 3/4	25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	1814	8 7/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1815	9/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1815	5	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb.	1815	5 1/2
25 April	1815		24 Oct.	-	8/5 1/2	25 April	1815		24 June	-	4 15/16	25 Feb.	1815		24 March	-	6 6/32
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	7/5	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	5 3/16	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 1 1/2
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1816	7/2 3/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	4 7/16	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	3 3 1/2
25 April	1816		24 July	-	6/1 1/2	25 April	1816		24 June	-	4 12/16	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1816	3 19/32
25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	7/11 1/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 3/32	25 Feb.	1816		24 March	-	4 64/64
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1817	8/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	5 3/16	25 March	-	-	24 July	-	3 1 1/2
25 Jan.	1817		24 June	-	11/3 3/4	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	10 5/32	25 July	-	-	24 Sept.	-	3 3 1/2
25 June	-	-	24 Aug.	-	11/11	25 June	1817		24 Oct.	-	9 5/16	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb.	1817	2 2 1/2
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	5 1/2	25 Feb.	1817		24 March	-	3 3/4
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1818	9/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1818	7 5/16	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	3 1 1/2
25 April	1818		24 Aug.	-	11/6	25 April	1818		24 Oct.	-	6 3 1/2	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	2 1 1/2
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	15/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	6	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	3 8/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	14/	25 April	1819		24 Oct.	-	5 13/16	25 Jan.	1818		24 March	-	3 1 1/2
25 April	1819		24 Oct.	-	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1820	5 9/16	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	4 3/4
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	9,10	25 Jan.	1820		24 April	-	5 1/2	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	4 1 1/2
25 April	1820		24 Oct.	-	10/	25 April	-	-	24 July	-	6 1/8	25 Nov.	-	-	24 March	1819	5 3 1/2
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1821	8/6	25 July	-	-	24 Sept.	-	6 1/6	25 March	1819		24 Sept.	-	6 3/2
25 Jan.	1821		12 April	-	8/11	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	5 3/2
						25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	5 7/16	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Feb.	1820	5 2 1/2
												25 Feb.	1820		24 March	-	5 3 1/2
												25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 1 1/2
												25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb.	1821	5 3 1/2
												25 Feb.	1821		24 March	-	5 3 1/2
												25 March	-	-	12 April	-	4 1 1/2

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

HERTS.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
P E R I O D.				PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.			PRICE per lb.	
				S. D.					D.				D.	
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	15/	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815		25 Sept. 1814	24 March 1815		10	
25 Oct.	1815		24 April 1816	11/	25 Oct.	1815		24 Oct. 1816	8	25 March -	-	24 Sept. -	-	9
25 April 1816			24 July -	10/	25 Oct.	1816		24 Dec. -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. -	-	24 March 1816		7 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	10/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	14	25 March 1816		24 June -	-	7
25 April 1819			24 Oct. 1819	14/6	25 Oct.	1818		24 Oct. 1819	8 $\frac{1}{6}$	25 March 1819		24 Sept. 1820		9
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	11/11	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. -	-	24 March 1821		7 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April 1820			24 Oct. -	11/6	25 April -	-		24 Oct. -	9	25 March -	-	12 April -	-	7
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	10/6	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	7					

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

OATS.					BREAD.					MEAT.				
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	9/5 1/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	6 5/8	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	7 1/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	9/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	5 5/8	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb. 1815	4 3/8
25 April 1815			24 Oct. -	8/5 1/2	25 April 1815			24 June -	4 1/8	25 Feb. 1815			24 March -	5 1/4
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	7/5	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	5 3/8	25 March	-	-	24 May -	4 7/8
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1816	7/2 3/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	4 9/8	25 May	-	-	24 Sept. -	4 2/8
25 April 1816			24 July -	6/1 1/2	25 April 1816			24 June -	4 13/8	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. -	3 6/8
25 July	-	-	24 Oct. -	7/11 1/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	5 13/8	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1816	3 13/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1817	8/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	5 1/8	25 Feb. 1816			24 March -	4 3/8
25 Jan. 1817			24 June -	11/3 3/4	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	7 3/8	25 March	-	-	24 July -	3 13/8
25 June	-	-	24 Aug. -	11/11	25 Feb. 1817			24 June -	9 7/8	25 July	-	-	24 Sept. -	3 13/8
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct. -	12/	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	9 11/8	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	2 3/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1818	9/10	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	5 1/2	25 Feb. 1817			24 March -	3 3/8
25 April 1818			24 Aug. -	11/6	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	7 13/8	25 March	-	-	24 July -	3 3/8
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct. -	15/6	25 Feb. 1818			24 April -	7 3/8	25 July	-	-	24 Sept. -	3 3/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	14/	25 April	-	-	24 Oct. -	7 1/4	24 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. -	2 3/8
25 April 1819			24 Oct. -	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	6 1/2	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	3 13/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	9/10	25 April 1819			24 Oct. -	6 3/8	25 Feb. 1818			24 March -	3 3/8
25 April 1820			24 Oct. -	10/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	5 3/4	25 March	-	-	24 Sept. -	4 1/4
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1821	8/6	25 April 1820			24 July -	6 1/4	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. -	3 3/8
25 Jan. 1821			12 April -	8/11	25 July	-	-	24 Oct. -	6 3/8	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan. 1819	4 3/8
					25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	5 13/8	25 Jan. 1819			24 March -	5 3/8
										25 March	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 4/8
										25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. -	4 13/8
										25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1820	5 7/8
										25 Feb. 1820			24 March -	6
										25 March	-	-	24 Sept. -	5 5/8
										25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1821	5 13/8
										25 Jan. 1821			24 March -	4 3/8
										25 March	-	-	12 April -	4 3/8

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

KENT.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.							
P E R I O D.					PRICE per 100lb.	P E R I O D.					PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.					PRICE per lb.
					S. D.						D.						D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	10/4	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	6 1/10	25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	1814	9 1/2
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1815	9/1 1/2	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1815	5 1/10	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6 1/3
25 April	1815		24 July	-	8/2	25 Jan.	1815		24 April	-	5 6/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1815	6 1/3
25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	9/3	25 April	-	-	24 July	-	5 3/10	25 Feb.	1815		24 March	-	6 5/10
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6/10 1/2	25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	5 1/10	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 9/10
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1816	7/10 1/2	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	5	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	4 1/10
25 April	1816		24 June	-	6/4 1/2	25 April	1816		24 June	-	4 2/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1816	4 1/10
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	9/7 1/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 3/10	25 Feb.	1816		24 March	-	5 1/10
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	7/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	5 1/2	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	4 1/10
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	13/3	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	9 7/10	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	4 1/10
25 June	1817		24 Oct.	-	13/9	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	10 2/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March	1817	4 1/4
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	7/11 1/3	25 June	1817		24 Oct.	-	10 5/10	25 March	1817		24 Sept.	-	4 1/10
25 Jan.	1818		24 April	-	9/10	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	5 3/4	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	3 1/2
25 April	-	-	24 June	-	9/10	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1818	7 3/4	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	3 7/8
25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	-	10/6	25 Feb.	1818		24 April	-	8 3/10	25 Jan.	1818		24 March	-	4 7/10
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	12/7 3/4	25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	7 1/10	25 March	1818		24 Sept.	-	4 1/10
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	13/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	7 5/10	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	4 7/8
25 April	1819		24 Oct.	-	11/	25 April	1819		24 Oct.	-	6 1/2	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan.	1819	6 7/8
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	8/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	6 5/10	25 Jan.	1819		24 March	-	6 7/10
25 April	1820		24 Oct.	-	8/11	25 April	1820		24 Oct.	-	6	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 3/10
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	7/5 1/2	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	5 1/10	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1820	5 1/10
												25 Jan.	1820		24 March	-	5 3/10
												25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 1/10
												25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1821	5 4/10
												25 March	1821		12 April	-	4 3/10

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

LEICESTER.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
P E R I O D.				PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	9/6	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	8	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	9 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	7/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7
25 April 1815			24 Oct. - -	6/10	25 April 1815			24 Oct. - -	7	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March 1815	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	8/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March 1815			24 Sept. - -	6 $\frac{1}{32}$
25 April 1816			24 Sept. - -	6/5	25 April 1816			24 June - -	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1816	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct. - -	9/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1816			24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7/8	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	12	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1817	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	1	25 June 1817			24 Oct. - -	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Jan. 1817			24 Feb. - -	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 June 1817			24 Oct. - -	12/	25 Oct. 1818			24 April 1819	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. 1818			24 Nov. 1818	6
25 Oct. 1818			24 April 1819	13/3	25 April 1819			24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan. 1819	7
25 April 1819			24 Oct. - -	11/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	6 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Jan. 1819			24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1820	6/10	25 April 1820			24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1820	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Jan. 1820			24 April - -	7/8	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	6 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 Jan. 1820			24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April - -			24 July - -	8/5						25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1821	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 July - -			24 Sept. - -	9/6						25 March - -			12 April - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct. - -	8/11										
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	7/3										

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—*continued*.

MIDDLESEX.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
P E R I O D.				PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	9/11 1/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	6 1/10	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	8 5/10
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	8/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1815	5 1/10	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan. 1815	5 7/10
25 April 1815			24 Oct. - -	8/2 3/4	25 Jan. 1815			24 April - -	5 1/10	25 Jan. 1815			24 March - -	5 1/10
25 Oct.	-	-	1 Jan. 1816	7/8	25 April - -			24 Oct. - -	5 9/10	25 March - -	-	-	24 June - -	5 1/4
2 Jan. 1816			24 April - -	7/5	25 Oct. - -			24 April 1816	5 6/32	25 June - -	-	-	24 Sept. - -	5 7/32
25 April - -			24 June - -	6/- 3/4	25 April 1816			24 June - -	5 3/32	35 Sept. - -	-	-	24 Nov. - -	4
25 June - -			24 Oct. - -	9/	25 June - -			24 Oct. - -	6 2/32	25 Nov. - -	-	-	24 Jan. 1816	4 3/10
25 Oct. - -			24 Dec. - -	7/7	25 Oct. - -			24 Nov. - -	6	24 Jan. 1816			24 March - -	4 1/32
25 Dec. - -			24 June 1817	12/8	25 Nov. - -			24 Dec. - -	9 7/10	25 March - -	-	-	24 Sept. - -	4 1/2
25 June 1817			24 Oct. - -	12/4	25 Dec. - -			24 June 1817	10 3/32	25 Sept. - -	-	-	24 Nov. - -	4 1/8
25 Oct. - -			24 Dec. - -	7/	25 June 1817			24 Oct. - -	10 8/8	25 Nov. - -	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	4 10/32
25 Dec. - -			24 Feb. 1818	8/8	25 Oct - -			24 Jan. 1818	6 2/32	25 Feb. 1817			24 March - -	4 1/2
25 Feb. 1818			24 April - -	9/6	25 Jan. 1818			24 March - -	7 1/10	25 March - -	-	-	24 Sept. - -	4 3/8
25 April - -			24 Sept. - -	10/6	25 March - -			24 April - -	8 1/4	25 Sept. - -	-	-	24 Nov. - -	3 2/32
25 Sept. - -			24 Oct. - -	8/11 3/4	25 April - -			24 Oct. - -	8 7/32	25 Nov. - -	-	-	24 March 1818	4 1/8
25 Oct. - -			24 April 1819	12/7	25 Oct. - -			24 April 1819	7 1/32	25 March 1818			24 Sept. - -	4 3/4
25 April 1819			24 Oct. - -	10/4	25 April 1819			24 Oct. - -	6 5/8	25 Sept. - -	-	-	24 Nov. - -	4 2/32
25 Oct. - -			24 Jan. 1820	8/4	25 Oct. - -			24 Dec. - -	6 9/32	25 Nov. - -	-	-	24 March 1819	5 7/8
25 Jan. 1820			24 April - -	8/6	25 Dec. - -			24 April 1820	6 7/8	25 March 1819			24 Sept. - -	5 1/10
25 April - -			24 Oct. - -	8/11	25 April 1820			24 Oct. - -	6 3/32	25 Sept. - -	-	-	24 March 1820	5 1/32
25 Oct. - -			12 April 1821	7/7	25 Oct. - -			12 April 1821	6 3/16	25 March 1820			24 Sept. - -	5 3/24
										25 Sept. - -	-	-	24 March 1821	5 3/8
										25 March - -	-	-	12 April - -	5 1/16

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

NORFOLK.

OATS.					BREAD.					MEAT.								
PERIOD.					PRICE per 100lb.	PERIOD.					PRICE per 4lb.	PERIOD.					PRICE per lb.	
					S. D.						D.						D.	
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	14/	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	5 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 June	1814	24 Sept.	-	-	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1815	11/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1815	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb.	1815	6	
25 April	1815	24 Oct.	-	-	8/6	25 April	1815	24 Oct.	-	-	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Feb.	1815	24 March	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	7/9	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	4 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April	1816	24 July	-	-	6/	25 April	1816	24 June	-	-	4 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	9/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Feb.	1816	4 $\frac{7}{8}$	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	7/11	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	5 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Feb.	1816	24 March	-	-	5 $\frac{7}{2}$	
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	11/	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	9 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	4 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	-	12/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	10 $\frac{7}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	4 $\frac{7}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1818	7/11	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb.	1818	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 March	1817	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	
25 April	1818	24 Sept.	-	-	9/3	25 Feb.	1818	24 April	-	-	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March	1817	24 Sept.	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	12/6	25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	14/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	4 $\frac{3}{8}$	
25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	12/10	25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	7	25 Jan.	1818	24 March	-	-	4 $\frac{7}{8}$	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	9/2	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Oct.	1820	6 $\frac{2}{3}$	25 March	-	-	24 Aug.	-	-	5 $\frac{3}{8}$
25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	-	9/4	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Aug.	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	7/5							25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
												25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan.	1819	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
												25 Jan.	1819	24 Sept.	-	-	6 $\frac{7}{8}$	
												25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	6 $\frac{5}{8}$
												25 Nov.	-	-	24 March	1820	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	
												25 March	1820	24 Sept.	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
												25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1821	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
												25 March	1821	12 April	-	-	5 $\frac{3}{2}$	

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

OATS.					BREAD.					MEAT.							
PERIOD.					PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.					PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.					PRICE per lb.
					S. D.						D.						D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	7/6	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	6 $\frac{1}{3}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	1814	7
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	7/3	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1815	5 $\frac{1}{3}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	4 $\frac{5}{8}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1815	7/6	25 Jan.	1815	24 April	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{3}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March	1815	5 $\frac{1}{3}$
25 April	1815	24 Aug.	-	-	6/8	25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	5 $\frac{4}{9}$	25 March	1815	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{3}$
25 Aug.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8/9	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	4 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1816	5 $\frac{1}{3}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	6/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 April	1816	24 June	-	-	4 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March	1816	24 Sept.	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{3}$
25 April	1816	24 July	-	-	5/2	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 $\frac{3}{10}$	24 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1817	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	7/11	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6 $\frac{7}{10}$	25 Jan.	1817	24 March	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb.	1817	6/6	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	10	25 Sept.	1818	24 Dec.	1818	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
25 Feb.	1817	24 May	-	-	8/9	25 Oct.	1818	24 April	1819	8	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March	1819	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
25 May	-	-	24 June	-	13/	25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 March	1819	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	7/3	25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1820	5 $\frac{2}{8}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March	1820	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1818	8/11	25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	-	6 $\frac{5}{8}$	25 March	1820	24 May	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Feb.	1818	24 April	-	-	9/	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 May	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8/8							25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1821	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	10/6							25 March	1821	12 April	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	9/3												
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6/5 $\frac{1}{2}$												
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1820	7/9												
25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	-	8/8												
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	6/5												

NOTTINGHAM.

OATS.					BREAD.					MEAT.							
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.			
				S. D.					D.					D.			
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	9/3	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	1814	8 $\frac{5}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb.	1815	7/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1815	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Feb.	1815	24 April	-	-	7/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1815	7	25 Jan.	1815	24 March	-	-	8
25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8/6	25 June	1815	24 Oct.	-	-	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	7/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	5 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1816	5
25 April	1816	24 July	-	-	7/3	25 April	1816	24 July	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Jan.	1816	24 March	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8/9	25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	7/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6 $\frac{9}{10}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1817	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	14/3	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March	1817	24 May	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	-	10/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	-	9 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 May	-	-	24 July	-	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	5/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	4 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 July	-	-	24 Sept.	-	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Jan.	1818	24 April	-	-	8/4	25 Jan.	1818	24 April	-	-	7 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April	-	-	24 Sept.	-	9/6	25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Jan.	1818	24 March	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	12/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	8	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	13/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	7 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	12/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1819	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 April	1820	24 July	-	-	5 $\frac{3}{2}$	25 Feb.	1819	24 March	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1820	7/6	25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	6 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April	1820	24 July	-	-	8/	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	9/9							25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan.	1820	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	6/11 $\frac{1}{2}$							25 Jan.	1820	24 March	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec.	-	-	12 April	-	7/2 $\frac{1}{2}$							25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
												25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1821	5 $\frac{7}{8}$
												25 March	-	-	12 April	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

OXFORD.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.				D.	
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	17/	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	11 ½	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	11 ½
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	12/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	10	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7 ¾
25 Oct.	1815		24 April 1816	11/	25 Oct.	1815		24 April 1816	8	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March 1815	9 ½
25 April	1816		24 Dec. - -	10/	25 Oct.	1816		24 Dec. - -	8 ½	25 March 1815			24 Sept. - -	8 ½
25 Oct.	1817		24 Feb. 1818	10/10	25 Oct.	1817		24 Feb. 1818	8 ½	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1816	7 ¾
25 Feb.	1818		24 April - -	11/9	25 Feb.	1818		24 Oct. - -	9 ½	25 March 1816			24 June - -	7 ½
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	14/	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	9 ¼	25 Sept.	1818		24 Nov. 1818	6 ¾
25 April	1819		24 Oct. - -	11/10	25 April	1819		24 Oct. - -	8 ¾	25 Nov.	-	-	24 March 1819	7 ½
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	9/10	25 Oct.	1819		12 April 1821	8	25 March 1819			24 Sept. - -	8
25 April	1820		24 Oct. - -	10/10						25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	7 ¼
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	10/5						25 Nov.	-	-	24 March 1820	7 ¼
										25 March 1820			24 Sept. - -	7 ½
										25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1821	7
										25 March 1821			12 April - -	6 ¾

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

SALOP.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.				D.	
25 June	-	24 Oct.	1814	14/	25 June	-	24 Oct.	1814	12	25 June	-	24 Sept.	1814	10 ¹ / ₂
25 Oct.	-	24 Jan.	1815	10/6	25 Oct.	-	24 April	1815	10	25 Sept.	-	24 March	1815	8 ¹ / ₂
25 Jan.	1815	24 April	-	13/	25 Oct.	1815	24 April	1816	8	25 March	1815	24 Sept.	-	7 ³ / ₄
25 April	-	24 Oct.	-	11/6	25 April	1819	24 Oct.	1819	8 ⁷ / ₈	25 Sept.	-	24 March	1816	6 ⁷ / ₈
25 Oct.	-	24 April	1816	11/	25 Oct.	-	24 April	1820	8	25 March	1816	24 June	-	6 ³ / ₄
25 April	1816	24 Oct.	-	9/	25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	7 ³ / ₄	25 Sept.	1818	24 March	1819	6 ³ / ₄
25 Oct.	-	24 Dec.	-	10/	25 Oct.	-	12 April	1821	7	25 March	1819	24 Dec.	-	6 ¹ / ₂
25 June	1818	24 Oct.	1818	13/11						25 Dec.	-	24 Sept.	1820	6 ⁷ / ₈
25 Oct.	-	24 April	1819	12/6						25 Sept.	1820	24 March	1821	6 ¹ / ₂
25 April	1819	24 June	-	11/10						25 March	1821	12 April	-	6
25 June	-	24 Oct.	-	11/6										
25 Oct.	-	24 April	1820	10/10										
25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	10/9										
25 Oct.	-	12 April	1821	9/										

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

STAFFORD.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	14/	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	10 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	10/9	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1815	8
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1815	9/5	25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1815	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1815	-	-	24 Sept. -	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April 1815	-	-	24 Oct. -	10/6	25 April 1815	-	-	24 June -	8	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1816	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	10/4	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. -	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1816	-	-	24 June -	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 April 1816	-	-	24 Oct. -	8/10	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	8	25 Aug.	-	-	24 Sept. -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	11/	25 Oct. 1816	-	-	24 Dec. -	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	6
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	14/	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb. 1817	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. 1818	-	-	24 Nov. 1818	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 June 1817	-	-	24 Oct. -	14/4	25 Oct. 1818	-	-	24 April 1819	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Jan. 1819	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	8/9	25 April 1819	-	-	24 Oct. -	8 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Jan. 1819	-	-	24 March -	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Feb. 1818	-	-	24 April -	11/3	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	8	25 March	-	-	24 Sept. -	7
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct. -	15/	25 April	-	-	24 Oct. -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1820	6
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan. 1819	14/10	25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	7	25 March 1820	-	-	24 Sept. -	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Jan. 1819	-	-	24 March -	13/11						25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1821	6
25 March	-	-	24 April -	15/						25 March 1821	-	-	12 April -	5 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 April	-	-	24 Oct. -	12/11										
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. -	9/11										
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April 1820	10/3										
25 April 1820	-	-	24 July -	9/5										
25 July	-	-	24 Sept. -	9/6										
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct. -	9/8										
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	9/										

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

SURREY.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
P E R I O D.				PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	10/7	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. 1814	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept. 1814	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	8/3	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1815	7	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April 1815			24 Oct. - -	9/	25 April 1815			24 Oct. - -	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March 1815	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	7/3	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1816	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1815			24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April 1816			24 June - -	6/4	25 April 1816			24 June - -	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Feb. 1816	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 June	-	-	24 Oct. - -	9/3	25 June	-	-	24 Oct. - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Feb. 1816			24 March - -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	7/11	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March - -			24 Sept. - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	14/6	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	9 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec. - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 June 1817			24 Oct. - -	12/	25 Dec.	-	-	24 June 1817	11 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March 1817	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1818	9/	25 June 1817			24 Oct. - -	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1817			24 May - -	4 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 April 1818			24 Sept. - -	11/3	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 May	-	-	24 Sept. - -	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	13/	25 Feb. 1818			24 April - -	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	4
25 April 1819			24 Oct. - -	11/8	25 April - -			24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{1}{10}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Feb. 1818	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	10/5	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1819	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Feb. 1818			24 March - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April 1820			24 Oct. - -	9/6	25 April 1819			24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March - -			24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	8/6	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April 1820	6 $\frac{5}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	5
					25 April 1820			24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 March 1819	6 $\frac{1}{16}$
					25 Oct.	-	-	12 April 1821	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1819			24 May - -	6 $\frac{1}{16}$
										25 May	-	-	24 July - -	6 $\frac{1}{16}$
										25 July	-	-	24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{1}{16}$
										25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov. - -	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
										25 Nov.	-	-	24 March 1820	7 $\frac{1}{16}$
										25 March 1820			24 Sept. - -	7 $\frac{1}{16}$
										25 Sept.	-	-	24 March 1821	6 $\frac{1}{16}$
										25 March 1821			12 April - -	5 $\frac{1}{8}$

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—*continued.*

WARWICK.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.				
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.				PRICE per lb.
				S. D.					D.					D.
25 June	-	24 Oct.	1814	11/5	25 June	-	24 Oct.	1814	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June	-	24 Sept.	1814	8 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	24 Feb.	1815	9/8	25 Oct.	-	24 Jan.	1815	7 $\frac{1}{3} \frac{5}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	24 March	1815	7 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 Feb.	1815	24 April	-	8/2	25 Jan.	1815	24 April	-	7 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March	1815	24 Sept.	-	6 $\frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{2}$
25 April	-	24 June	-	9/	25 April	-	24 June	-	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Sept.	-	24 Dec.	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 June	-	24 Oct.	-	8/11	25 June	-	24 August	-	7 $\frac{1}{3} \frac{4}{2}$	25 Dec.	-	24 March	1816	5 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	24 April	1816	8/3	25 August	-	24 Oct.	-	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 March	1816	24 Sept.	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April	1816	24 July	-	7/2	25 Oct.	-	24 April	1816	6 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	24 March	1817	5
25 July	-	24 Oct.	-	8/1	25 April	1816	24 June	-	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March	1817	24 Sept.	-	5 $\frac{1}{6}$
25 Oct.	-	24 Dec.	-	7/10	25 June	-	24 Oct.	-	7 $\frac{2}{3} \frac{2}{2}$	25 Sept.	-	24 March	1818	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Dec.	-	24 June	1817	11/10	25 Oct.	-	24 Dec.	-	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 June	1818	24 Sept.	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	11/10	25 Dec.	-	24 June	1817	11	25 Sept.	-	24 Nov.	-	5 $\frac{5}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	24 Feb.	1818	7/9	25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Nov.	-	24 Jan.	1819	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Feb.	1818	24 April	-	9/1	25 Oct.	-	24 April	1818	7	25 Jan.	1819	24 March	-	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 April	-	24 Sept.	-	10/	25 April	1818	24 Oct.	-	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March	-	24 Sept.	-	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Sept.	-	24 Oct.	-	12/3	25 Oct.	-	24 April	1819	9	25 Sept.	-	24 Nov.	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 Oct.	-	24 April	1819	13/8	25 April	1819	24 June	-	7 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Nov.	-	24 Jan.	1820	5 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	11/11	25 June	-	24 Oct.	-	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Jan.	1820	24 March	-	5 $\frac{9}{16}$
25 Oct.	-	24 April	1820	8/8	25 Oct.	-	24 Dec.	-	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March	-	24 May	-	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
25 April	1820	24 July	-	9/5	25 Dec.	-	24 Feb.	1820	6 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 May	-	24 Sept.	-	5 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 July	-	24 Oct.	-	9/6	25 Feb.	1820	24 April	-	6 $\frac{3}{3} \frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept	-	24 March	1821	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	12 April	1821	7/10	25 April	-	24 Oct.	-	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March	1821	12 April	-	5 $\frac{1}{16}$
					25 Oct.	-	12 April	1821	6 $\frac{3}{8} \frac{1}{4}$					

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

WILT^S.

OATS.				BREAD.				MEAT.			
PERIOD.				PRICE per 100 lb.				PERIOD.			

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

Y O R K.

O A T S.					B R E A D.					M E A T.									
P E R I O D.					PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.					PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.					PRICE per lb.		
					S. D.						D.						D.		
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	1814	9/10	25 June	-	-	24 Oct	1814	6 $\frac{3}{32}$	25 June	-	-	24 Sept.	1814	8 $\frac{1}{4}$		
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	8/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	5 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1815	5 $\frac{2}{32}$		
25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1815	9/5	25 Dec.	-	-	24 April	1815	6 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 March	1815	24 May	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{4}$		
25 April	1815	24 Oct.	-	-	8/9	25 April	1815	24 June	-	-	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 May	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{1}{16}$	
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	7/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	-	6 $\frac{2}{32}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	-	5
25 April	1816	24 June	-	-	6/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1816	5 $\frac{5}{16}$	25 Dec.	-	-	24 March	1816	5 $\frac{1}{4}$		
25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	8/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 April	1816	24 June	-	-	5 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 March	1816	24 Sept.	-	-	4 $\frac{2}{32}$		
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	8/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	-	7 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1817	4 $\frac{3}{16}$	
24 Dec.	-	-	24 June	1817	11/9	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	-	6 $\frac{7}{16}$	25 Jan.	1817	24 March	-	-	4 $\frac{5}{8}$	
25 June	1817	24 Oct.	-	-	13/3	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1817	11 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
24 Oct.	-	-	24 Feb.	1818	8/9	25 Feb.	1817	24 April	-	-	10 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Jan.	1818	4 $\frac{1}{8}$		
25 Feb.	1818	24 April	-	-	9/11	25 April	-	-	24 June	-	-	11 $\frac{2}{32}$	25 Jan.	1818	24 March	-	-	4 $\frac{1}{16}$	
25 April	-	-	24 Sept.	-	10/11	25 June	-	-	24 Oct.	-	-	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{7}{16}$
25 Sept.	-	-	24 Oct.	-	13/4	25 Oct.	-	-	24 Dec.	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 Jan.	1819	12/	25 Dec.	-	-	24 Feb.	1818	7 $\frac{2}{32}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Feb.	1819	6 $\frac{1}{4}$		
25 Jan.	1819	24 April	-	-	16/6	25 Feb.	1818	24 April	-	-	8 $\frac{1}{16}$	25 Feb.	1819	24 March	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{4}$		
25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	12/7	25 April	-	-	24 Oct.	-	-	8 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	8/5	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1819	8 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 Nov.	-	-	5 $\frac{7}{16}$	
25 April	1820	24 Oct.	-	-	11/6	25 April	1819	24 Oct.	-	-	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Nov.	-	-	24 Feb.	1820	5 $\frac{2}{32}$		
25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	7/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Oct.	-	-	24 April	1820	6 $\frac{1}{8}$	25 Feb.	1820	24 March	-	-	5 $\frac{3}{4}$		
						25 April	1820	24 July	-	-	6 $\frac{1}{64}$	25 March	-	-	24 Sept.	-	-	5 $\frac{2}{32}$	
						24 July	-	-	24 Oct.	-	-	6 $\frac{2}{64}$	25 Sept.	-	-	24 March	1821	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	
						25 Oct.	-	-	12 April	1821	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March	1821	12 April	-	-	5 $\frac{2}{64}$		

Appendix, N^o 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

ALDERNEY.

OATS.			BREAD.			MEAT.		
PERIOD.		PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per lb.
					S. D.			D.
			25 June 1814	24 April 1816	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 June - -	2 Nov. 1814	8 $\frac{15}{16}$
			25 April 1816	24 July - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1815	4 $\frac{5}{16}$
			25 July - -	24 April 1817	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 Jan. 1815	24 June - -	4 $\frac{31}{32}$
			25 April 1817	24 June - -	14	25 June - -	24 March 1816	6 $\frac{7}{16}$
			25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1816	24 March 1817	4 $\frac{3}{8}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Feb. 1818	7	25 March 1817	24 Jan. 1818	3 $\frac{15}{32}$
			25 Feb. 1818	24 Oct. - -	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Jan. 1818	24 March - -	3 $\frac{11}{16}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Oct. 1819	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March - -	24 Dec. - -	4 $\frac{9}{16}$
			25 Oct. 1819	24 Feb. 1820	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Dec. - -	24 March 1819	6 $\frac{5}{32}$
			25 Feb. 1820	24 June - -	4 $\frac{15}{16}$	25 March 1819	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{3}{8}$
			55 June - -	24 Oct. - -	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. - -	24 June 1820	3 $\frac{13}{16}$
			25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June 1820	24 Sept. - -	4 $\frac{23}{32}$
						25 Sept. - -	24 March 1821	3 $\frac{29}{32}$
						25 March 1821	12 April - -	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
No Supply has taken place in this Island.								

GUERNSEY.

OATS.			BREAD.			MEAT.		
PERIOD.		PRICE per 100 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per 4 lb.	PERIOD.		PRICE per lb.
		S. D.			D.			D.
25 July 1815	1 Jan. 1816	11/10	25 June 1814	25 April 1815	7 $\frac{5}{8}$	25 June - -	2 Nov. 1814	8 $\frac{15}{16}$
2 Jan. 1816	24 April - -	9/2	25 April 1815	24 July - -	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	3 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1815	4 $\frac{5}{16}$
25 April - -	24 March 1817	9/	25 July - -	24 April 1816	5 $\frac{11}{16}$	25 Jan. 1815	24 June - -	4 $\frac{31}{32}$
25 March 1817	24 June - -	11/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 April 1816	24 Aug. - -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June - -	24 March - -	6 $\frac{7}{16}$
25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	12/9	25 Aug. - -	24 Jan. 1817	6 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 March 1816	24 March 1817	4 $\frac{3}{8}$
			25 Jan. 1817	24 June - -	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March - -	24 Jan. 1818	3 $\frac{15}{32}$
			25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Jan. 1818	24 March - -	3 $\frac{11}{16}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Feb. 1818	6	25 March - -	24 Dec. - -	4 $\frac{9}{16}$
			25 Feb. 1818	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{5}{8}$	25 Dec. - -	24 March 1819	6 $\frac{5}{32}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Oct. 1819	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 March 1819	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{5}{8}$
			25 Oct. 1819	24 Feb. 1820	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 Sept. - -	24 June 1820	3 $\frac{13}{16}$
			25 Feb. 1820	24 June - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 June 1820	24 Sept. - -	4 $\frac{23}{32}$
			25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	5	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1821	3 $\frac{29}{32}$
			25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	4 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 March 1821	12 April - -	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
Not any Contract has been entered into since the last named period.								

Appendix, N° 36.—Account of Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

JERSEY.

O A T S.			B R E A D.			M E A T.		
P E R I O D.		PRICE per 100 lb.	P E R I O D.		PRICE per 4 lb.	P E R I O D.		PRICE per lb.
25 June 1814	24 April 1815	S. D. 12/6	25 June - -	24 April 1815	7 $\frac{5}{8}$	25 June - -	2 Nov. 1814	8 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 April 1815	24 April 1816	10/	25 April 1815	24 July - -	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	3 Nov. - -	24 Jan. 1815	4 $\frac{5}{16}$
25 April 1816	24 March 1817	8/9	25 July - -	24 April 1816	5 $\frac{11}{16}$	25 Jan. 1815	24 June - -	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 March 1817	24 June - -	12/9	25 April 1816	24 Aug. - -	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 June - -	24 March 1816	6 $\frac{1}{16}$
25 June 1817	24 Oct. - -	11/3	25 Aug. - -	24 Jan. 1817	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 March 1816	24 March 1817	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
Not any Contract has been entered into since the last named period.			25 Jan. 1817	24 June - -	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1817	24 Jan. 1818	3 $\frac{1}{16}$
			25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	9 $\frac{3}{8}$	25 Jan. 1818	24 March - -	3 $\frac{1}{16}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Jan. 1818	6 $\frac{7}{8}$	25 March - -	24 Dec. - -	4 $\frac{9}{16}$
			25 Jan. 1818	24 Oct. - -	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 Dec. - -	24 March 1819	6 $\frac{5}{16}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Feb. 1819	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 March 1819	24 Sept. - -	5 $\frac{5}{8}$
			25 Feb. 1819	24 Oct. - -	7 $\frac{3}{16}$	25 Sept. - -	24 June 1820	3 $\frac{1}{16}$
			25 Oct. - -	24 Feb. 1820	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	25 June 1820	24 Sept. - -	4 $\frac{2}{16}$
			25 Feb. 1820	24 June - -	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 Sept. - -	24 March 1821	3 $\frac{2}{16}$
			25 June - -	24 Oct. - -	5	25 March 1821	12 April - -	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
			25 Oct. - -	12 April 1821	4 $\frac{3}{8}$			

Commissariat Department,
Treasury Chambers, 27 April 1821.

W. Hill.

Appendix, N° 37.

AN ACCOUNT of the Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, for Oatmeal, Oats, Bread, and Meat, supplied to His Majesty's Troops in North Britain, from the 25th June 1814 to 12th April 1821.

PERIOD.		OATMEAL, per 140 lb. avoirdupois.		OATS, per 100 lb.	BREAD, per 4 lb. Loaf.	MEAT, per lb.
		Orkney.	Forts.	S.	D.	D.
25 June - - -	24 July - 1814	20/6	25/9	8/	6 $\frac{7}{32}$	5 $\frac{10}{12}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	20/6	25/9	8/	6 $\frac{7}{32}$	5 $\frac{10}{12}$
25 August - -	24 September -	20/6	25/9	8/	6 $\frac{7}{32}$	5 $\frac{10}{12}$
25 September -	24 October - -	20/6	25/9	8/	6 $\frac{7}{32}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 October - -	24 November -	20/6	23/	8/	4 $\frac{28}{32}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 November -	24 December -	20/6	23/	8/	4 $\frac{28}{32}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 December -	24 January 1815	20/6	23/	8/	4 $\frac{28}{32}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 January - -	24 February -	20/6	23/	8/	4 $\frac{28}{32}$	5 $\frac{5}{16}$
25 February -	24 March - -	20/6	23/	8/	5 $\frac{3}{32}$	5 $\frac{5}{16}$
25 March - -	24 April - - -	20/6	23/	8/	5 $\frac{3}{32}$	4 $\frac{6}{7}$
25 April - -	24 May - - -	20/6	23/	7/6	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{6}{7}$
25 May - - -	24 June - - -	20/6	23/	7/6	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{6}{7}$
25 June - - -	24 July - - -	19/7	23/	7/6	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{6}{7}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	19/7	23/	7/6	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{6}{7}$
25 August - -	24 September -	19/7	23/	7/6	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{6}{7}$
25 September -	24 October - -	19/7	23/	7/6	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{13}{32}$
25 October - -	24 November -	19/7	17/1	6/5	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{13}{32}$
25 November -	24 December -	19/7	17/1	6/5	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{13}{32}$
25 December -	24 January 1816	19/7	17/1	6/6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{13}{32}$
25 January - -	24 February -	19/7	17/1	6/6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{13}{32}$
25 February -	24 March - -	19/7	17/1	6/6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{9}{16}$
25 March - -	24 April - -	19/7	17/1	6/6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 April - -	24 May - - -	19/7	17/1	5/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 May - - -	25 June - - -	19/7	17/1	5/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 June - - -	24 July - - -	33/10	17/1	7/11	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	33/10	17/1	7/11	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 August - -	24 September -	33/10	17/1	7/11	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{16}$
25 September -	24 October - -	33/10	17/1	7/11	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{23}{32}$
25 October - -	24 November -	33/10	32/9	7/11	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{23}{32}$
25 November -	24 December -	33/10	32/9	7/11	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{23}{32}$
25 December -	24 January 1817	33/10	32/9	7/11	8 $\frac{5}{8}$	3 $\frac{23}{32}$
25 January - -	24 February -	33/10	32/9	12/	8 $\frac{5}{8}$	3 $\frac{23}{32}$
25 February -	24 March - -	33/10	32/9	12/	9	3 $\frac{23}{32}$
25 March - -	24 April - -	33/10	32/9	12/	9	3 $\frac{27}{32}$
25 April - -	24 May - - -	33/10	32/9	12/	9	3 $\frac{27}{32}$
25 May - - -	24 June - - -	33/10	32/9	12/	9	3 $\frac{27}{32}$
25 June - - -	24 July - - -	- - -	32/9	10/10	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{27}{32}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	- - -	32/9	10/10	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{28}{32}$
25 August - -	24 September -	- - -	32/9	7/10	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	3 $\frac{28}{32}$
25 September -	24 October - -	- - -	32/9	7/10	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	3 $\frac{11}{32}$

Appendix, N° 37.—Account of the Contract Prices paid by the Commissariat, &c.—continued.

PERIOD.		OATMEAL, per 140lb. avoird.	OATS, per 100 lbs.	BREAD, per 4lb. Loaf.	MEAT, per lb.
		Forts.		D.	D:
25 October - -	24 Nov. - 1817	31/8	7/6	4 $\frac{29}{32}$	3 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 November -	24 December -	31/8	7/6	4 $\frac{29}{32}$	3 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 December -	24 January 1818	31/8	9/8	6 $\frac{21}{32}$	3 $\frac{21}{32}$
25 January - -	24 February -	31/8	9/8	6 $\frac{21}{32}$	3 $\frac{21}{32}$
25 February -	24 March - -	31/8	11/6	6 $\frac{21}{32}$	3 $\frac{21}{32}$
25 March - - -	24 April - - -	31/8	11/6	7 $\frac{7}{32}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 April - - -	24 May - - -	31/8	10/9	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
25 May - - -	24 June - - -	31/8	10/9	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 June - - -	24 July - - -	31/8	10/9	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	31/8	10/9	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 August - -	24 September -	31/8	10/9	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 September -	24 October - -	31/8	10/9	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{14}{32}$
25 October - -	24 November -	36/6	12/11	6	4 $\frac{14}{32}$
25 November -	24 December -	36/6	12/11	6	4 $\frac{14}{32}$
25 December -	24 January 1819	36/6	12/11	6	4 $\frac{30}{32}$
25 January - -	24 February -	36/6	12/11	6	4 $\frac{30}{32}$
25 February -	24 March - -	36/6	12/11	6	4 $\frac{30}{32}$
25 March - - -	24 April - - -	36/6	12/11	7 $\frac{15}{32}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 April - - -	24 May - - -	36/6	10/11	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 May - - -	24 June - - -	36/6	10/11	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 June - - -	24 July - - -	36/6	10/11	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	36/6	10/11	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 August - -	24 September -	36/6	10/11	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
25 September -	24 October - -	36/6	10/11	6 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
25 October - -	24 November -	21/	7/6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
25 November -	24 December -	21/	7/6	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
25 December -	24 January 1820	21/	7/6	5 $\frac{7}{32}$	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
25 January - -	24 February -	21/	7/6	5 $\frac{7}{32}$	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
25 February -	24 March - -	21/	7/6	5 $\frac{7}{32}$	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
25 March - - -	24 April - - -	21/	7/6	5 $\frac{7}{32}$	4 $\frac{17}{32}$
25 April - - -	24 May - - -	21/	8/4	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	4 $\frac{17}{32}$
25 May - - -	24 June - - -	21/	8/4	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	4 $\frac{17}{32}$
25 June - - -	24 July - - -	21/	8/4	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	4 $\frac{17}{32}$
25 July - - -	24 August - -	21/	8/4	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	4 $\frac{17}{32}$
25 August - -	24 September -	21/	8/4	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	4 $\frac{17}{32}$
25 September -	24 October - -	21/	8/4	5 $\frac{9}{16}$	4 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 October - -	24 November -	20/10	8/	5	4 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 November -	24 December -	20/10	8/	5	4 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 December -	24 January 1821	20/10	8/	5	4 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 January - -	24 February -	20/10	8/	5	4 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 February -	24 March - -	20/10	8/	5	4 $\frac{11}{32}$
25 March - - -	12 April - - -	20/10	8/	5	4 $\frac{11}{32}$

Commissariat Department,
Treasury, 12 April 1821. }

W. Hill.

Appendix, N° 38.

A RETURN of the Number of Inclosure Bills between the Years 1760 to 1820; distinguishing the Number in each Year.

YEARS.				NUMBER in each Year.	YEARS.				NUMBER in each Year.
1760	-	-	-	24	1791	-	-	-	38
1761	-	-	-	21	1792	-	-	-	46
1762	-	-	-	39	1793	-	-	-	42
1763	-	-	-	31	1794	-	-	-	39
1764	-	-	-	66	1795	-	-	-	75
1765	-	-	-	60	1796	-	-	-	86
1766	-	-	-	49	1797	-	-	-	52
1767	-	-	-	35	1798	-	-	-	65
1768	-	-	-	60	1799	-	-	-	63
1769	-	-	-	63	1800	-	-	-	80
1770	-	-	-	67	1801	-	-	-	122
1771	-	-	-	70	1802	-	-	-	96
1772	-	-	-	65	1803	-	-	-	104
1773	-	-	-	62	1804	-	-	-	52
1774	-	-	-	42	1805	-	-	-	71
1775	-	-	-	58	1806	-	-	-	76
1776	-	-	-	99	1807	-	-	-	91
1777	-	-	-	66	1808	-	-	-	92
1778	-	-	-	68	1809	-	-	-	122
1779	-	-	-	45	1810	-	-	-	107
1780	-	-	-	25	1811	-	-	-	133
1781	-	-	-	15	1812	-	-	-	119
1782	-	-	-	18	1813	-	-	-	120
1783	-	-	-	15	1814	-	-	-	81
1784	-	-	-	23	1815	-	-	-	47
1785	-	-	-	25	1816	-	-	-	34
1786	-	-	-	22	1817	-	-	-	46
1787	-	-	-	34	1818	-	-	-	44
1788	-	-	-	24	1819	-	-	-	40
1789	-	-	-	26	1820	-	-	-	
1790	-	-	-						
					TOTAL				3,500

8th May 1821.

Appendix, N° 39.

EXTRACT of a Despatch from J. C. Mellish, Esq. His Majesty's Consul at Hamburgh, to Lord Viscount Castlereagh; dated 17th April 1821.

AGRICULTURAL produce has progressively declined during two years; the demand for export unusually small, and there has been no stimulus to animate the agriculturist. The only great change which took place during that period, was in the article of oats. On the opening the English ports in August last for this grain, an immediate rise of from 30 to 50 per cent occurred. The shortness of the time allowed for importation, occasioned shipments to a much greater extent than would have been the case, had the ports remained open. There was no anticipation here of the sudden fall of this grain in England; and from the rapidity with which shipments were made to arrive in time, many persons were induced to send their grain to England, who would not have done so, had they had time to ascertain the quantity shipped from various quarters, and the ruinous effects to be expected from so vast and so sudden an importation. Had the English ports been open for a year, it is probable that the importation would not have been much greater, but it would have been more gradual, and consequently not so ruinous; a moderate advance on the Continent, and a moderate reduction in England, would have taken place. The consumer in England has alone profited; the importers from the Continent having on the whole, lost much money by the speculation. The nett price produced from England, has been found insufficient to pay the moderate price of the continental farmer.

Appendix, N° 40.

EXTRACT from the Order of the Cabinet of H. M. the King of Prussia,
dated 12th September 1801.

To the Minister of State, Baron Von Schroetter.

WITH respect to taking off the new duty on wheat, I do not see that the country can suffer from its continuance to the end of this year, as the shipments of the present calendar year cannot continue much longer; the threshing out of the wheat will not be finished before the end of the current year, and therefore the supply to the seaport towns can only begin with the month of January next year.

It is the fault of the merchant himself if he has encumbered himself with a larger stock than he could send to England before the 1st October, as he is sure of a good price to that time; and the new measure of the English government for reducing the bounty, having occasioned an unnatural rise in the prices of the best wheats, will make up to him in price what he would otherwise have received in bounty. Under these circumstances, I consider it so much the more advisable to postpone the taking off the duty on wheat till the month of December, as we shall then be able to judge with more certainty, whether the report of an unusually abundant wheat harvest in England is founded or not, and regulate our measures accordingly. Should the prices in England continue to that time, between 50 s. and 60 s. per quarter, the duty shall then be taken off; and shall only be continued in full, if they rise again to 80 s. or 90 s.—should they in this period rise something less than this last mentioned price, the duty can be modified accordingly.

(Signed) *Friedrich Wilhelm.*

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Appendix No. 40

EXTRACT from the Order of the Council of H. M. the King of Prussia
dated 15th September 1861.

To the Minister of State, Baron Von Schroeder.

WITH respect to taking off the new duty on wheat, I do not see that the country can enter from its continuance to the end of the year, as the shipment of the present crop year cannot continue much longer; the shipping out of the wheat will not be finished before the end of the current year, and therefore the duty to the export towns can only begin with the month of January next year.

It is the fault of the merchant himself if he has crumpled himself with a larger stock than he could send to England before the 1st October, as he is sure of a good price to that time; and the new measure of the English government for reducing the bounty, having occasioned an unusual rise in the price of the best wheat, will work up to this price what he would otherwise have received in Prussia. Under these circumstances, I consider it so much the more advisable to postpone the taking off the duty on wheat till the month of December, as we shall then be able to judge more certainly, whether the report of an unusually abundant wheat harvest in England is founded or not, and regulate our measures accordingly. Should the price in England continue to that time, between 50s. and 60s. per quarter, the duty shall then be taken off; and shall only be continued in full, if they rise again to 80s. or 90s.—should they in that period rise something less than this last mentioned price, the duty can be established accordingly.

Friedrich Wilhelm.

(Signed)

1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2443	2444	2445	2446	2447	2448	2449	2450	2451	2452	2453	2454	2455	2456	2457	2458	2459	2460	2461	2462	2463	2464	2465	2466	2467	2468	2469	2470	2471	2472	2473	2474	2475	2476	2477	2478	2479	2480	2481	2482	2483	2484	2485	2486	2487	2488	2489	2490	2491	2492	2493	2494	2495	2496	2497	2498	2499	2500	2501	2502	2503	2504	2505	2506	2507	2508	2509	2510	2511	2512	2513	2514	2515	2516	2517	2518	2519	2520	2521	2522	2523	2524	2525	2526	2527	2528	2529	2530	2531	2532	2533	2534	2535	2536	2537	2538	2539	2540	2541	2542	2543	2544	2545	2546	2547	2548	2549	2550	2551	2552	2553	2554	2555	2556	2557	2558	2559	2560	2561	2562	2563	2564	2565	2566	2567	2568	2569	2570	2571	2572	2573	2574	2575	2576	2577	2578	2579	2580	2581	2582	2583	2584	2585	2586	2587	2588	2589	2590	2591	2592	2593	2594	2595	2596	2597	2598	2599	2600	2601	2602	2603	2604	2605	2606	2607	2608	2609	2610	2611	2612	2613	2614	2615	2616	2617	2618	2619	2620	2621	2622	2623	2624	2625	2626	2627	2628	2629	2630	2631	2632	2633	2634	2635	2636	2637	2638	2639	2640	2641	2642	2643	2644	2645	2646	2647	2648	2649	2650	2651	2652	2653	2654	2655	2656	2657	2658	2659	2660	2661	2662	2663	2664	2665	2666	2667	2668	2669	2670	2671	2672	2673	2674	2675	2676	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681	2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689	2690	2691	2692	2693	2694	2695	2696	2697	2698	2699	2700	2701	2702	2703	2704	2705	2706	2707	2708	2709	2710	2711	2712	2713	2714	2715	2716	2717	2718	2719	2720	2721	2722	2723	2724	2725	2726	2727	2728	2729	2730	2731	2732	2733	2734	2735	2736	2737	2738	2739	2740	2741	2742	2743	2744	2745	2746	2747	2748	2749	2750	2751	2752	2753	2754	2755	2756	2757	2758	2759	2760	2761	2762	2763	2764	2765	2766	2767	2768	2769	2770	2771	2772	2773	2774	2775	2776	2777	2778	2779	2780	2781	2782	2783	2784	2785	2786	2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794	2795	2796	2797	2798	2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	2837	2838	2839	2840	2841	2842	2843	2844	2845	2846	2847	2848	2849	2850	2851	2852	2853	2854	2855	2856	2857	2858	2859	2860	2861	2862	2863	2864	2865	2866	2867	2868	2869	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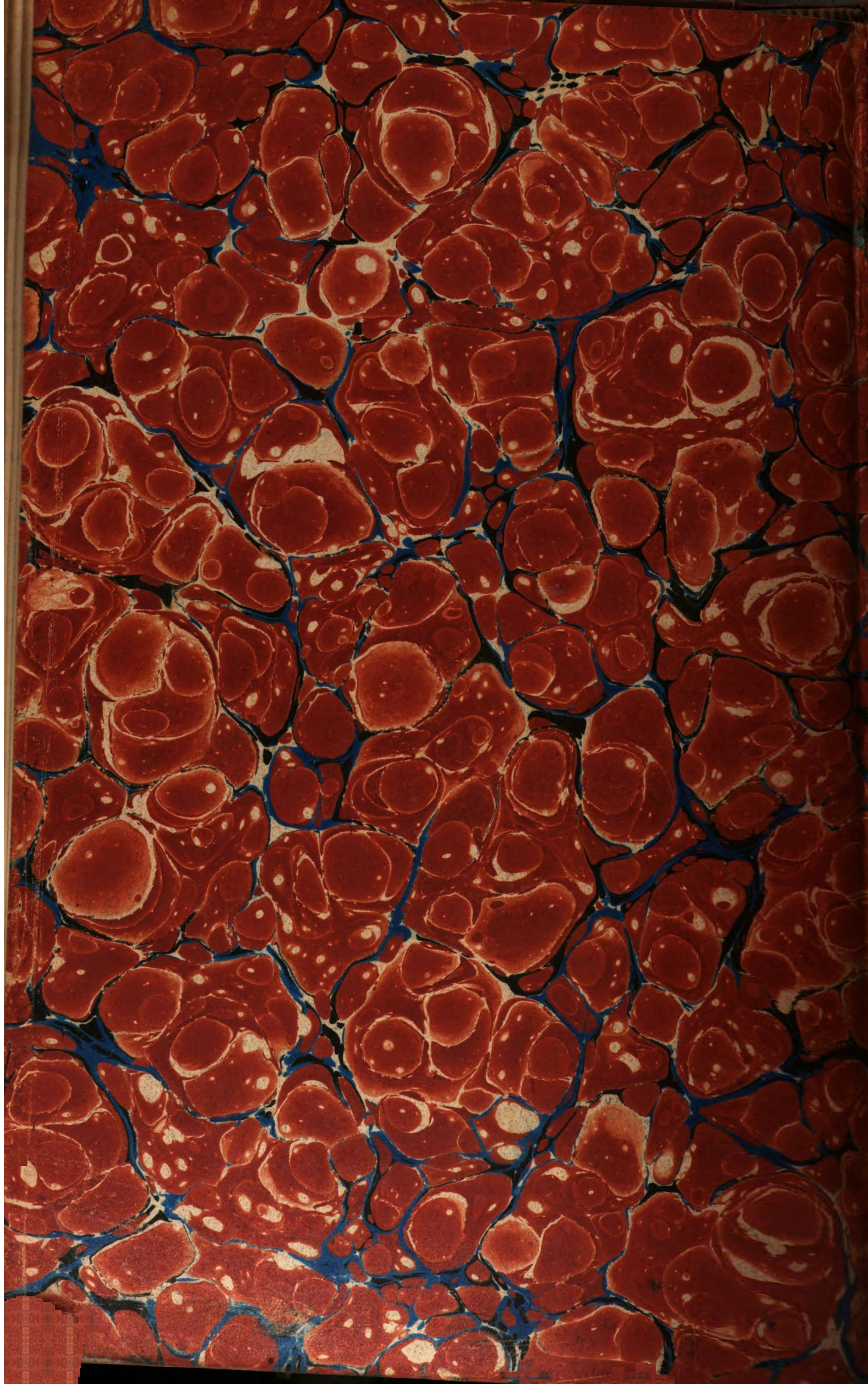
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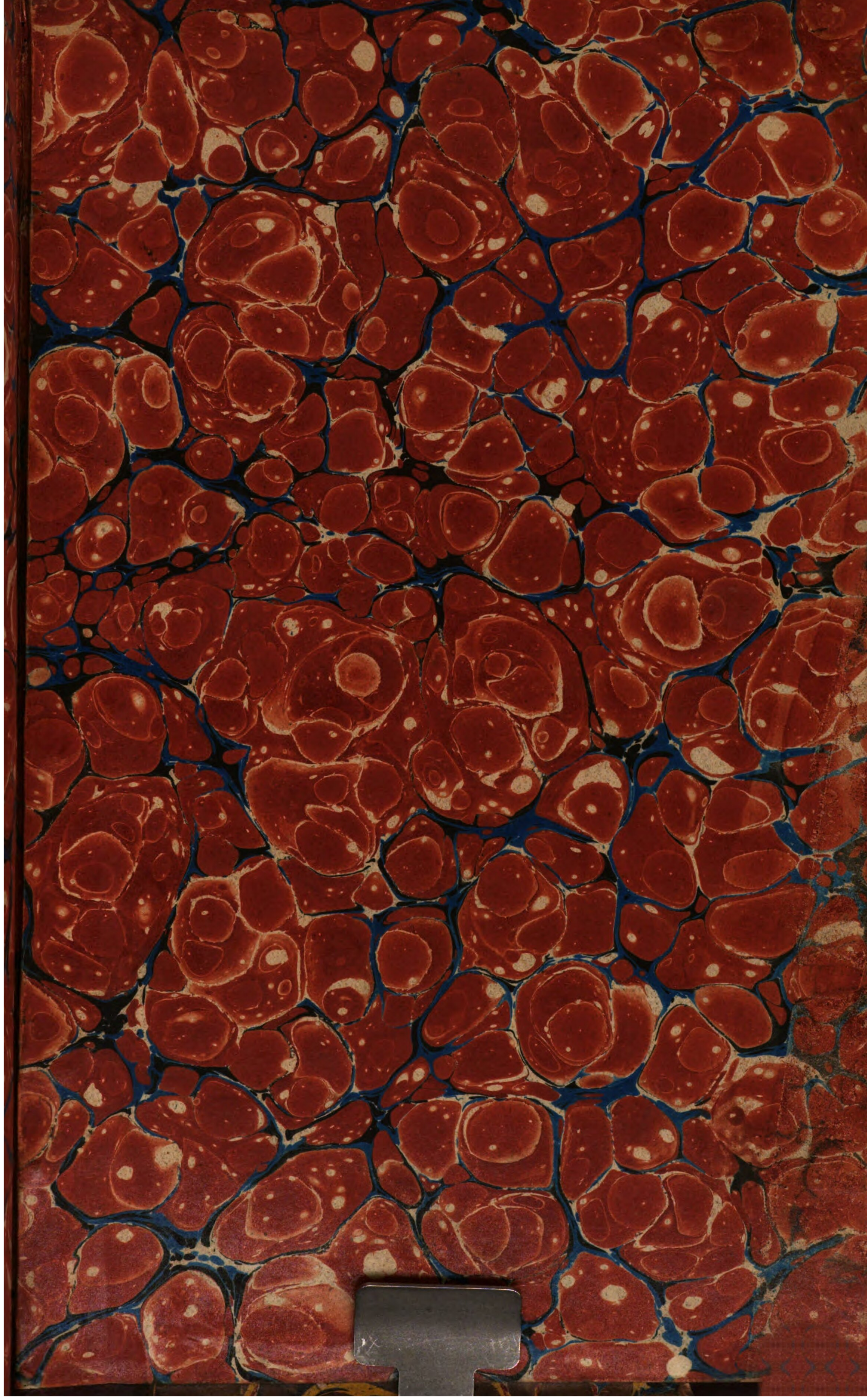
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